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Preview

The music, dance, theatre, art and crafts of India will be on show throughout Britain in a festival which opens next week. Today's *Preview*, the 16-page arts and entertainments guide published each Friday with *The Times*, gives the highlights of the festival's opening events, in addition to full details of the week's films, plays, concerts, exhibitions, broadcasting, sport and family *outings*.

Liberals and SDP agree more seats

The Liberals and Social Democrats have agreed an almost *equal division between them* of two-thirds of Britain's parliamentary seats to be contested at the next *general election*. They are confident of reaching agreement on a majority of the remainder by the end of the month

Back page

Journalists killed in El Salvador

Four Dutch journalists were killed in El Salvador, the *Dutch embassy in San Salvador* said. Unconfirmed reports said they died during fighting in a *village 70 miles north of the* capital.

Plea for Duarte, page 6

Prosser jury out

The jury trying three prison officers accused of the murder of Mr Barry Prosser at Winson Green Prison went to a hotel for the night after a six-hour retirement without reaching agreement at Leicester Crown *Court*.

Platt group fails

A receiver has been called in at Stone-Platt, the big textile machinery manufacturer, despite rescue attempts by the Bank of England. The collapse has led to a clash between the company's bankers and City institutions Page 13

Polar escape

The British Transglobe Expedition explorers have escaped from an ice floe 375 miles from the North Pole by driving their snow vehicle on to another ice floe which drifted alongside

Earlier report, page 6

Private loans up

A steady increase in loans to the private sector is revealed in figures released by the *Bank of England. Public sector* lending was contracting

Page 13

Cable TV worry

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, is to set up an inquiry into the impact of cable and satellite broadcasting on television standards. It is feared that standards will fall Page 3

Penlee inquest

The Penlee disaster inquest, which opened in Penzance was told of the drama of the three captains involved, the coaster master, the helicopter pilot and the lifeboat coxswain

Page 2

Shinwell drops Labour whip



Lord Shinwell, aged 97, who has resigned the Labour Whip. (Back page)

Spectator dies

A 22-year-old Indian died after being punched on the head during the one-day cricket match in Durban on Wednesday between South Africa and *the touring English XI*. Police said they had questioned and later released a white man

Cricket, page 17

Death penalty and flogging are rejected by Government

By Hugh Noyes and Anthony Bevins

The controversy over the maintenance of law and order in the face of a rise in violent crime overshadowed all other issues, including that of unemployment, in heated Commons exchanges yesterday

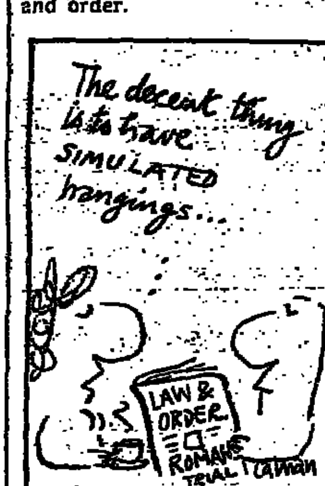
Mr Whitelaw and Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, made *clear to their back*benches that while they viewed the rising crime figures with the greatest *seriousness*, there was no possibility of the reintroduction of either the death penalty or of corporal punishment. Mrs Thatcher also told the House that she did not believe that corporal punishment would be reintro*duced*.

At the same time, the Home Office made a surprise announcement that *Sir David* McNee will retire as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police on October 1.

Though the Government do *not intend to support* some of the harsher penalties for offenders being suggested on *the right of the Conservative* Party, it is expected to give its backing to the introduction of curfew orders for young offenders between the ages of 10 and 21.

A new clause to the Criminal Justice Bill is likely to give courts the power to order young offenders to stay at home for specified periods between 6pm and 6am on weekdays and from noon on Saturday and Sunday.

With opposition to the Government's stance continuing on the Tory backbenches, Cabinet Ministers intend to assemble all possible support for Mr *Whitelaw in the coming week's* debate within the party on law and order.



Mrs Thatcher and Mr Whitelaw battled through an hour of questioning, and MPs on both sides of the House left the *Government* in *no doubt that* this issue has, for the moment at least, taken over the political stage from the problems *of* unemployment.

Mr Whitelaw and Mrs Thatcher came to the House well armed to deal with almost any statistic. Almost too well armed in the case of the Prime Minister, who was so buried *beneath departmental briefings* on crime statistics that she completely lost her way at one point as the *arguments* deteriorated into exchanges over whether criminals thrived better under a *Labour* or a Conservative government.

Mrs Thatcher, Mr Whitelaw and Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, between them made clear to their backbenchers that while they viewed the rising crime figures with the yreatest seriousness, there was no possibility of the reintroduction of either the death penalty or of corporal punishment. It was pointed out, however, that there would be opportunities in the near future for Ps o vote on both *these issues*.

McNee to retire as police chief

Sir David McNee, whose decision to retire came as a surprise to most of Scotland Yard yesterday. Offered another two years service by the Home Secretary Sir David told him some weeks ago he would leave this October.

To appeals for new measures to combat the rising level of violent crime, Mr Whitelaw reminded *MPs* that the Criminal Justice Bill now before the House would provide magistrates and judges with a wide range of penalties. He was also hoping to bring forward proposals which would implement some parts of the *plans on police powers* that were in the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

But Mr Whitelaw was not encouraging in his reply to suggestions from the Labour benches for more community policing. That sort of talk, he said, was bedevilling our policing system. What was wanted was effective policing, which meant harnessing the support, encouragement and help of the local community.

He accepted that the increase in burglaries and street crimes was serious and must be tackled not only by the House, the police and the Government but by the whole of the community. It was only by a concerted effort that the battle against crime could be won.

Mr Whitelaw agreed with *Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition* spokesman on Home Affairs, that the best way to reduce the crime rate was *not to have* wild talk about more violent punishment but to get the police out *on the streets* among the people. This was a matter for the community as a whole: there were problems of parental discipline, discipline in schools and many other matters that contributed to rising crime.

The Home Secretary backed the Metropolitan Police for their break-down of crime statistics into ethnic groups. *He* knew in advance that this was to be done

The Cabinet is preparing to mobilize all possible support for the Home Secretary in the coming week's Conservative Party debate on law and order.

Senior ministers were saying last night that the issue should not be turned int oa political *football, that what mattered* was the means to the improvement of the figures, but that theer were no simple answers.

Such arguments will only serve to isolate the Conservative right-wing, which has been demanding draconian measures, including capital punishment. There will be a vote on capital punishment, the second in the Parliament, during the report stage of the Criminal Justice Bill, after Easter, it was disclosed last night.

Law and order debate, page 2
Parliamentary report, page 4
Leading article, page 11

Tory wets revolt over cut in dole

By *Philip Webster*
Political Reporter

The Government suffered one of its biggest backbench revolts of the present parliament last night when 13 Conservative MPs voted to restore the 5 per cent that *was cut* from unemployment benefit in 1980.

They supported an opposition clause during the report stage of the Social Security and *Housing* Benefits Bill which would have had the effect of restoring the "abatement".

The Government majority fell to 30 but the new clause was rejected by 248 votes to 218. *The majority would have* been much lower had several MPs in the opposition parties not been absent. *Up to half a* dozen other Conservative MPs abstained.

The 13 rebels were led by Sir Ian Gilmour, the former *Cabinet minister*. The others were Mr Robert Hicks (Bodmin), Mr Alan Haselhurst (Saffron Walden), Mr Christopher Patten (Bath), Mr Patrick Cormack (Staffordshire, South-West), Mr Richard Needham (Chippenham), Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West), Mr Hugh Dykes (Harrow, East), Mr James Lester (Beeston), Mr David Knox (Leek), Mr Julian Critchley (Aldershot), Mr Robin Squire (Havering, Hornchurch) and Sir Anthony Meyer (Flint, West).

One Conservative MP after another rose to attack the Government's decision not to restore the abatement, brought in as a substitute for the taxation on short-term benefits which the Government had pledged in its manifesto to introduce.

Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister for Social Security, totally failed to *satisfy* the critics who constantly interrupted his speech.

Many Conservatives argued during the debate that as the *taxation of short-term benefits* starting in July would bring in over £500m in a full year *the Government should spend* the £60m it would cost to restore the abatement.

Mr Rossi patently angered his backbenchers when he said: "£60m in a year is not a trivial amount to find. We have many things to do in the social security field which we would like to do."

He promised, however, that the abatement would be made good eventually

Benn seeks royal aid to annul Lords

By George Clark

Mr Wedgwood Benn, who resigned the Stansgate peerage in 1963 and is seen as the main defender of left-wing activists, has produced for the Labour *Party a detailed plan for the* abolition of the House of Lords. It would involve, as he first *told* the party conference in 1980, a Labour-dominated Commons asking the Queen to create a thousand or so new and temporary peers to wreak the destruction of the Upper House.

Critics in the Labour Party *have* argued that that is either impracticable or political nonsense, or else that it would *provoke a constitutional crisis*, putting the Queen in the centre of a dispute which might result in her refusing to use her prerogative to pave the way for the abolition of one of the estates of the realm.

In a paper that Mr Benn has prepared for the party's machiney of government group, which includes Dame Judith Hart, chairman of the party, Mr Eric Heffer, Mr John Silkin, Mr Michael Meacher, Lord Balogh and Lord Crowther-Hunt, he seeks to show that his plan is constitutional.

He rejects the suggestions made by Mr Silkin and Mr Michael Cocks, the Opposition chief whip, that the Lords' abolition commitment should be given low priority in the party manifesto because the Commons would have more important *legislation to tackle*.

Mr Benn argues that Lords' abolition is the essential prerequisite to legislation, for taking the United Kingdom out of the EEC and thus allowing the new Government to carry through its alternative economic strategy.

His paper opens with the declaration that "the Lords are unlikely to pass a Bill to abolish themselves". Furthermore, *it would be difficult* to get the Bill through simply by invoking the provisions of the Parliament Acts, which restrict the Lords' delaying *power*. That could involve a wrangle between the two Houses that would last two or three years.

Early in that dispute, Mr Benn argues, the Labour government would be forced to adopt the "swamping" method of *carrying* the legislation, by asking the Queen to create enough peerages to outvote the majority in the Upper House.

He recognizes that at that point, the Crown might say, as

Continued on back page, col 6

Teachers step up action after rebuff on pay

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The two main teachers' unions are to step up their industrial action in all local authority schools following the decision by employers last night not to refer their pay claim to arbitration.

The management panel of the Burnham Committee, which negotiates teachers' pay in England and Wales, was split down the middle between those wanting immediate arbitration and those urging further negotiations. A number of members exercised their right to requisition a further meeting of the full *Burnham* Committee, with next Thursday as a possible date.

The Association of *Metropolitan* Authorities (AMA) promptly put out a statement saying that it stood by its opinion that the dispute should *go to arbitration*, but was nevertheless prepared to attend another Burnham meeting in the hope of persuading its management colleagues to accept arbitration.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, expressed deep anger at the employers' *decision*. Their "provocative act" meant the union would have no alternative but to step up disruptive action, he said.

The union, which *until now* has been exempting from sanctions all metropolitan authorities and 25 of the 47 county authorities which backed their *demand for* arbitration, will refuse to supervise pupils or take part in activities after school hours in all *authorities*.

The National Association of Schoolmasters / Union of Women Employees, the second largest teachers' union, *described the employers'* decision as "thoroughly irresponsible". It also will now increase sanctions to include refusal to cover for absent colleagues.

All five of the main teachers' unions meet today to discuss further *joint* action, including strikes.

Jews lose plea, page 2

Chris Gregory



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, *comforting Mrs Sylvia Martin* during a visit to St Joseph's Hospice in Hackney, East London, yesterday.

Franc falls to lowest level ever

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 18

The franc fell to its lowest level ever against the dollar on Paris exchanges today amid *speculation* that *it may* be devalued for the second time in six months.

For two days, the Bank of France has intervened vigorously on the exchanges by selling some $1,000m (£552m), but this has failed to halt speculation against the franc, which today fell to Fr 6.185 against the dollar and to Fr 2.6059 against the Deutschmark. In addition, the domestic *lending rate* was *raised* by two points to 17 per cent, its highest level since September.

Given the drastic exchange *control measures reintroduced* in recent months, which leave little opportunity for domestic speculators, the run on the franc points to a sharp fall of confidence on the part of international investors.

Against that the optimism of the *Prime Minister*, who claimed yesterday that the slowing of inflationary trends was well under way, and the feigned surprise of the Finance Minister at the "agitation" over the franc "when all the objective elements of the economy are satisfactory", sound distinctly hollow. He flatly rejected the possibility of another devaluation.

Uproar as Israelis oust Arab mayor

From Christopher Walker, El-Bireh, March 18

The Israeli authorities today took the unprecedented step of disbanding one of the 25 elected Palestinian municipalities in the occupied West Bank and replacing its Arab mayor with a senior Israeli *Army officer*.

Within hours of the move, there were reports of renewed Arab unrest from many parts of the occupied area. Troop rainforcements were rushed to the trouble spots by the Israeli military command and the *remaining* mayors were planning a coordinated protest. In El-Bireh itself Arab women *defied the ban on demonstrations* and marched on the municipality shouting angry slogans.

The Israeli action was seen by diplomats as the latest escalation of the policy of attempting to silence all West Bank *support for the Palestine* Liberation Organization. It followed the indefinite postponement of the municipal elections and the recent outlawing of the radical National Guidance Committee.

The dissolution order was served on Mr Ibrahim Tawil, Mayor of El-Bireh (civic motto "The City on the Move") *after his council voted to* boycott the civil administration headed by Mr Menachem Milson, an *Israeli professor of* Arabic literature.

Mr Tawil, aged 35, one of three West Bank mayors subjected to booby-trap bomb attacks in the summer of 1980 was marched from his town hall by soldiers and later placed under town arrest. He claimed in an interview with *The Times* that the Israelis might soon disband other West Bank councils who have also *joined the boycott*.

The Israeli Defence Ministry justified the move by saying that it had been taken in the interests of the local Arabs to ensure that they continued to receive the municipal services. Right-wing Israeli politicians were *quick to praise the authorities* while some left-wingers expressed serious concern at the *implications* for the future of the West Bank.

After the disbandment, the Israelis issued a military order declaring El-Bireh and the neighbouring Arab *town* of Ramallah as a "closed area". I was one of a number *of reporters given an official* warning and forced to leave by armed soldiers as many of the 40,000 townspeople launched an immediate protest strike.

Within two hours of Mr Tawil's expulsion, the streets of El-Bireh *were being patrolled* by hundreds of soldiers carrying automatic rifles. Ramallah *was like a ghost town, with all* but a handful of food-shops shuttered and suspicious-looking troops gathered *in* large clusters on street corners. In Nablus the town council called an emergency meeting and announced an immediate three-day general strike.

Shell blast kills three commandos

Three Royal Marine commandos were killed yesterday when a mortar shell exploded on a training exercise at Otterburn, *Northumberland*. Two others were also badly wounded (Our Newcastle Correspondent writes).

The men, members of 45 Commando, based at Arbroath, are understood to have died when a shell exploded in the barrel of a mortar as it was being fired. Preliminary investigations suggest a faulty fuse.

The three dead marines were named last night as Anthony Helstrip, aged 20, Peter Butchers, aged 20, from Paignton, Devon, and Glenn Miller, aged 25, from Yeovil, Somerset. All were unmarried.

The two in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, were Cpl Stanley Wright, aged 25, from Ramsgate, Kent, who was seriously ill, and Marine William Curtis, aged 25, from Wythenshawe, Greater Manchester. Both needed surgery for shrapnel wounds.

The injured had been airlifted to hospital. The helicopter then made the 40-mile return trip to the training ranges to sweep the area for other casualties.

The Army said later: "These men were killed following an explosion during routine mortar training. The cause of the explosion is not known at present but ammunition technical officers are at the scene to investigate."

'Romans' case ends in confusion

Whitehouse and director both claim victory

By David Nicholson-Lord

The private prosecution of indecency charges brought by Mrs Mary Whitehouse against a National Theatre director ended abruptly and in confusion at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after the intervention of Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney-*General*.

After a complicated series of legal moves throughout Wednesday, a *senior Treasury counsel* representing Sir Michael appeared in court yesterday morning to invoke the *nolle prosequi* procedure, ending the case immediately after the withdrawal of the prosecution.

Both sides immediately *claimed victory*. Mrs Whitehouse, whose prosecution over the play, *The Romans in Britain*, had provoked *fears of a* renewal of theatre censorship, said she had proved an important legal point. Comments by the trial judge has established that an act of gross indecency could be committed on the stage, she said.

But Mr *Michael* Bogdanov, the play's director, who faced up to two years' imprisonment on charges under the Sexual Offences Act, 1956, said Mrs *Whitehouse had* withdrawn the case because she knew the jury would reject it.

Mr Bogdanov, who denied procuring and being party to a simulated act of male homosexual rape during the play, said he had undergone "quite a lot of worry and anguish" in the 18 months since the prosecution was launched.

He added: "I feel very angry that it finished without a *conclusive decision*. We were not able to put forward coherent and cogent arguments for a play that we had performed with absolute integrity."

Some legal opinion, however, took the view that the case's conclusion, described by the Attorney *General's* representative as "most unusual, if not unprecedented", settled nothing. That was because the *nolle prosequi* procedures effectively vacated the case and relegated the judge's rulings to the legal status of *obiter dicta*. No precedent was set, it was argued.

There were immediate calls for new legislation to amend an alleged loophole in the Theatres Act of 1968, which enabled the prosecution to go ahead. Mr Andrew Leigh, administrator director of the Old Vic and coordinator of the Theatre Defence Fund, said: "The effect is still that the freedom of the theatre is in grave peril."

Mrs Whitehouse had taken out a prosecution under the Sexual Offences Act after failing with similar moves under the Theatres Act. But Mr *Justice Staughton*, the trial judge, overruled defence submissions that the case was based on a technicality and on a "grossly inappropriate" law.

Mr Bogdanov's costs, estimated at £20,000, were ordered to be paid out of public funds. Mrs Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, will have to pay her own. They have been put at about £30,000.

Despite the case's apparently inconclusive ending, Mrs Whitehouse's immediate reaction outside the courtroom was that it was a "great day for the country and the theatre".

She had agreed to dropping the case, she said, because she *was not interested in making* Mr Bogdanov suffer any more. "All I wanted was a point of law established."

Details, page 2

NEWS IN SUMMARY

ANC given new premises

Staff of the African National Congress (ANC), the militant black *nationalist* organization whose London mission was wrecked by a bomb last Sunday, have been offered temporary accommodation by the British Council of Churches at its headquarters in Eaton Gate, Westminster (Michael Horsnell writes).

Canon Paul Oestreicher, the council's assistant general secretary, said yesterday that the bombing of the ANC's office was deeply deplored by the council as an action against all South Africans whose aspirations for majority rule the ANC had faithfully represented for 70 years.

Mrs Ruth Mompati, chief representative of the ANC in Britain, said: "We are grateful to the BCC and we have accepted the offer." The ANC is awaiting a surveyors' report which will determine whether the mission will have to be demolished.

Youths jailed for killing PC

Two youths who dragged a "courageous and model policeman" to his death were acquitted of his murder at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday. Our Liverpool correspondent writes. But Jeffrey Jaycock, aged 19 of Charlton Road, and Mark Kelly aged 21 of Ringcroft Road, both of Old Swan, Liverpool were both jailed for nine years for his manslaughter.

PC Raymond Davenport, aged 35 had leaned inside the youths' car to switch off the *ignition, last July 4 when the* car sped away dragging him along.

Court cuts cash to road victims

The Court of Appeal in London yesterday ruled that interest on general damages for "pain, suffering and loss of amenity" in accident cases should be cut from the present level of more than 10 per cent to only 2 per cent.

Three judges pruned £10,000 from an overall damages and interest award of £242,404 to Mrs Sandra Birkett, aged 42, who suffered head injuries in a road accident.

Law report, page 21

Civil servants' technology deal

The Government yesterday completed a new technology agreement with Civil Service union leaders representing 520,000 white-collar staff which the Government believes is a big contribution to Information Technology Year (Our Labour Staff writes).

The interim two-year agreement includes a government guarantee of no compulsory redundancies through new technology.

The object of the agreement is to improve efficiency and standards of service in government operations. The Civil Service is Britain's largest single user of computers.

School barricade

The police were called to Willowgarth High School, Grimethorpe, near Barnsley today when about 20 pupils barricaded the main gate. When police arrived, the pupils ran away, but one was detained.

Penlee disaster drama of three captains

From Craig Seton, Penzance

The master of a coaster drifting in mountainous seas toward rocks failed to put out a Mayday signal and his crew showed "no sense of urgency" as a helicopter and lifeboat fought to lift them and their passengers to safety, an inquest was told at Penzance yesterday.

The inquest into the deaths of the eight crew of the Penlee lifeboat Solomon Browne from the Cornish village of Mousehole and the eight people on board the 1,400-ton Union Star was told that Captain Henry Moreton had not lowered his ship's mast to enable the helicopter to get closer as he would have known to do.

Earlier, Captain Moreton, aged 33, was described as "short tempered" with the master of a salvage tug offering a tow and had asked him only to *stand by*. The jury heard that the master had on board his wife and two teenage stepdaughters picked up in an unscheduled stop without the knowledge of his company.

The Union Star, carrying fertilizer to Dublin on her maiden voyage, had broken down with engine failure eight miles off Land's End. The wind gusted up to 85 knots and waves reached 70 ft as she drifted over a period of two hours and 40 minutes on to the rocks and eventually *overturned. The battered* Penlee Lifeboat, having picked-up four people from the coaster, was lost.

The inquest, which will continue today heard evidence from the tug master that the lifeboat had probably been damaged after hitting the coaster's *side* and its crew, including the coxswain Trevelyan Richards, were possibly concussed or injured. He thought they were making a desperate run for shelter but the Solomon Browne either overturned or was dashed on to rocks.

The inquest was given evidence that showed the emergency was a drama of three captains, the pilot of the Royal Navy *helicopter*, whose rotor blades had come within three feet of the *coaster's mast, the master of* the stricken coaster who wanted his wife and children taken off first and the desperate attempts of Trevelyan Richards to get everybody on to his lifeboat.

Mr Johan Burman, the captain of the salvage tug Noorde Holland, said in written *evidence that he saw* the Solomon Browne washed on to the deck of the coaster and off again close to the cliffs of the Tater Du rocks near Land's End.

"Next second the lights of the Union Star went out as she appeared to capsize. When we called the lifeboat there was no reply."

Captain Burman, aged 52, who said he had carried out about one hundred salvage operations, said the seas were the worst he had seen. The coaster captain refused a "no cure, no fee" *open* Lloyd's contract for towing. Eventually the owners of the Union Star agreed to the contract but Captain Burman had decided by then that it was impossible to pass a tow.

Lieutenant-Commander Russell Smith of the United States Navy, seconded to Royal Naval Air Station, Culdrose in Cornwall, said in written evidence that he captained the Seaking helicopter Rescue 80 when it was scrambled at 7.20 pm on December 19.

Twenty-five minutes later it was at the scene and made repeated runs over the stricken coaster.

Families fund talks continue

Discussions are continuing between the families of the eight dead crewmen of the Penlee Life boat and the trustees of the disaster funds to decide how to distribute the £2.75m given by the public.

Mr John Moore, chief executive of Penwith District Council at Penzance which established the fund said yesterday that it had closed but was still growing with the accumulation of interest. He was unable to say when a announcement would be made about the division of the money but *it is* understood that it will make special provisions for the future well being of the young children of dead crewmen. The dead men all came from Mousehole and they left behind five widows, *and 12 children*, some of them grown up.

An estimated £500,000 given by the public to another fund set up by local fishermen has been divided equally between the eight families.

Senior changes at 'Times'

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

A vacancy has occured among the six independent national directors of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, who are entrusted with safeguarding the newsapapers' editorial independence.

Sir Edward Pickering, one of the six, yesterday was appointed executive vice-chairman of Times Newspapers Ltd (TLN). Sir Edward is also made a director of Times Newspaper Holdings Ltd. (TNHL), and of Times Newspapers Ltd, while resigning as an independent national director.

At the same time Mr Gerald Long ceases to be managing director of TNL, a post he has held since the takeover of the newspaper by Mr Rupert Murdoch in February, 1981. Mr Long becomes deputy chairman of News International Ltd, the parent company.

A statement issued by the company last night said that Mr Long "in that capacity will be assisting Mr Murdoch in all his responsibilities as chief executive of the group in the United Kingdom".

Mr Long is succeeded by Mr Bill Gillespie, the present deputy managing director. Mr Gillespie, who has been heavily involved in negotiations with the print unions over the last month over manning cuts, was until recently deputy managing director of News Group Newspapers Ltd.

Sir Edward already represents News International on the board of William Collins and Sons Ltd, in which it has a stake of just over 42 per cent.

Sir Edward, editor of *The Daily Express*, between 1957-62, is likely to be replaced by a journalist or former journalist. He was with Mr John Gross, the former editor of *The Times Literary Supplement*, one of two independent directors who, under the terms of the constitution, are selected for their editorial expertise.

After the case: Mr Michael Bogdanov, director of the "Romans" play, and Mrs Mary Whitehouse, who brought a private prosecution against him.

'Romans' case is withdrawn

By David Nicholson-Lord

The case against a national Theatre director on gross indecency charges under the Sexual Offences Act was withdrawn at the Central Criminal Court Yesterday after three rulings from the judge.

These were that the Act applied to events on stage, that a simulated sexual act could still amount to gross indecency, and that the motive of "sexual gratification" was not an essential part of the offence.

Mr Ian Kennedy, QC, representing Mrs Mary Whitehouse in her private *prosecution* against the director, said there was thus a prima facie case to answer. But if Mr Michael Bogdanov, the director, was convicted, the consequences of any penalty could "gravely damage" his private and professional life.

Mr Kennedy said Mr Bogdanov had only staged the male rape scene in the play, *The Romans in Britain*, after discussions with National Theatre directors and advice that the scene could not transgress the criminal law. *"He knows that is not so"*, Mr Kennedy added. But the public interest would not be served by taking the prosecution further.

Mr Kennedy was explaining to the court why he had decided that the prosecution *should* be stopped three days after it had started and after hearing evidence from one prosecution witness, Mr Graham Ross-Cornes, Mrs Whitehouses's solicitor.

The case, which was being widely viewed as crucial for theatre managements in determining what they could portray on stage, centred on a scene in *The Romans in Britain* in which a young Celt, who is also a trained Druid priest, is the subject of attempted buggery by a Roman soldier.

The play ran at the Olivier Theatre during the autumn and winter of 1980. Mr Bogdanov, aged 43, was charged under the Sexual Offences Act of 1956 for the performances on December 19, 1980, the night when Mr Ross-Cornes visited the theatre with the declared intention of determinig whether there was evidence for a prosecution.

Mr Ross-Cornes agreed during the hearing that the play, centring on Caesar's invasion of Britain, was *deeply serious and that Mr* Bogdanov was a director of distinction. Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC, for the defence, said at the end of the case yesterday that many witnesses would have been called in Mr Bogdanov's defence.

They would have "clearly and incontrovertibly" established that the allegation of gross indecency, which Mr Bogdanov denied, was "entirely *false*".

The alleged loophole in the Theatres Act, according to *theatre managements, lies in* an apparent omission, which meant that Mrs Whitehouse did not have to gain the permission of the Attorney General for an offence under another statute, as opposed to an offence at common law.

The ruling by Mr Justice Staughton spoke of defence submissions that prosecution under section 13 of the Sexual Offences Act was "specious although technically correct".

Section 13 was acknowledged by both sides to be used typically for gross indecency between homosexuals in public lavatories. Most cases were said to involve direct sexual gratification.

But the judge said it was not inconceivable that Parliament *might* have *exempted* theatre from the 1956 Act. "But it did not do so. Whether the omission was deliberate or accidental I do not know and cannot inquire." He also said that the sexual simulation would have to be proved to be grossly indecent; *physical* contact was not a necessary part.

Mr Peter Hall, director of the National Theatre, said yesterday that the preamble to the Theatres Act, which spoke of its purpose being to "abolish censorship", clearly indicated what Parliament had in mind. The 1968 Act's criterion for a prosecution by the Attorney General was anythig likely to "deprave and corrupt" those likely to see it.

Mr Andrew Leigh, coordinator of the Theatre Defence Fund and administrative director at the Old Vic, said the Theatres act had been used for a successful prosecution of three people for committing real sexual intercourse on the stage.

"The theatre is not seeking immunity from prosecution. We do not want to be exempted. But we need the law changed urgently if only to prevent the cost of further silly private prosecutione", he said.

Mr Marius Goring, vice-president of Equity, the actors' union, said the judge's ruling threatens the whole basis on which our profession stands".

Jenkins attacks call for return of hanging

From Julian Haviland, Political Editor Glasgow

There was a case for a new and substantial programme of prison building, Mr Roy Jenkins said in Glasgow yesterday.

The SDP–Liberal Alliance candidate in the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election, who is a former *Labour Home* Secretary, said that the call by the Police Federation for the restoration of capital punishment tended to direct attention from the real issues. He said that the Conservatives were reaping *the whirlwind* of trying to make law and order a party issue at the last general election.

Mr Jenkins recalled that the last Commons vote on capital punishment, resulted in a defeat for the idea of *restoration in a way that even* Mrs Margaret Thatcher regarded as conclusive. Another vote in the Commons would yield the same result. The traditional battles of canvassing statistics began yesterday. Mr Jenkins's *campaign managers put out* figures which showed him ahead by 24 per cent to 21 per cent for the Conservative candidate, Mr Gerald Malone, with Labour at per cent and the Scottish National party at 7 per cent, which Mr Jenkins insisted was exactly what they wanted a this stage: it gave the alliance *everything* to play for.

Mr Malone said Conservative canvassed returns were for the party's internal use *and not for publication, but*, as it happened, they showed him in the lead.

Mr David Wiseman, the Labour candidate, remained aloof from that argument but Mr George Leslie, the SNP candidate, was scornful of *the alliance claim to have* canvassed 71 per cent of Hillhead voters. He did not believe that any campaign had ever achieved so high a level of contact.

The SNP claim that their own canvassing shows "bedrock" nationalist support of 18 to 19 per cent

Mr Wiseman yesterday had support from Mr Neil Kinnock, Opposition spokesman on education, who in a speech at Glasgow University attacked the proposed 4 per *cent increasde in student* grants as a cut in real terms. He said that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, was "introducing a student loans system through the back door

Jewish schools' aid plea rejected

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

An application by three independent Jewish primary schools in North London to be taken into the maintained sector as voluntary aided schools has been rejected by the Government.

The Inner London Education Authority had opposed the application, on the grounds tha it would have to take over the running costs amounting to nealy £1m a year, and it already had surplus capacity in the main*tained primary schools and* therefore no desire to take on three new schools.

The Authority also feared that, if accepted, more Jewish schools and those of other religious faiths, such as the Muslims, would wish *to follow suit*. MOreove, the cost would be enormous.

In addition, the authority wa worried about the standards in the three Jewish schools: the Yesodey Hatorah girls' primary and the Lubavitch House girls' and boys' *primary schools*, all in Hackney.

A confidential report by ILEA inspectors said the Yesodeh Hatorah school premises were substandard; only three of the 18 teachers had recognized teaching qualifications; and instruction showed "grave deficiencies instyle and quality". Similar criticisms applied to the two Lubavitch schools, but the pupils in all *three were said to be happy*, courteous, and well-behaved.

Commission to change status

The Countryside Commission will cease to be under direct government control from April 1, under an order laid before Parliament yesterday (John Young writes).

It will become a quasi-auto*momous. grant aided* organization

Tribute to Pc

More than 200 police officers stood in silent tribute at the funeral yesterday of Pc John Egerton, aged 20, who died in a stabbing incident near Bolton last week. Many more joined the congregation at Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic church, Farnworth, for requiem Mass.

Science report

Early man ate too much liver

By the Staff of "Nature"

Close examination of the skeleton of a 1,500,000 year-old ancestor of *homo sapiens* has suggested that the lady in question suffered the toxic effects of too much vitamin A. Her condition may well have arisen from over-consumption of the liver of carnivorous animals, according to Dr Alan Walker of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Dr M Zimmerman of the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia and Professor Richard Leakey of the National Museums of Kenya.

The skeleton examined is the most complete available example of *homo erectus*. It was found in 1973 Lake Turkana in Kenya. While the bones of its skull appear almost normal, Dr Walker and his colleagues find that around many of the long bones in the skeleton's limbs there is deposited an extral layer of coarse-woven bone up to 7 millimetres *thick* in parts. That is *similar* to the pattern of bone disease observed in the rare cases of vitamin A toxicity that have been *examined* in recent times.

Although carrots, green *vegetables and the liver of* herbivorous animals supply most Westerners with more than enough vitamin A to meet the minimal dietary requirements, there is next to no danger of consuming a toxic overdose. Because the liver of carnivorous *animals contains up to* 30 times more vitamin A than that of herbivores, early polar explorers, driven to eating seal, polar bear or husky dog liver, sometimes suffered the short-term effects of vitamin A toxicity. These include vomiting, diarrhoea and convulsions.

Dr Walker and his colleagues *suggest* that, 1,500,000 years ago, long-term vitamin A toxicity was the result of early man becoming an eager meat-eater. From several Kenyan sites, notably Chesowanja, of about that age, stone tools and bone fragments from many species are first found in association with the remains of early humans. There is also evidence that our ancestors learnt to control fire at that time. With their newly acquired taste for meat, members of homo erectus may have devoured large quantities of the liver of *carnivores*.

There is no means by which the diagnosis of Dr Walker and his colleagues can be established beyond doubt. By a process of elimination, they arrive, reasonably, at vitamin A *toxicity* as the most likely cause of the bone damage.

Source: *Nature*, March 18 (Vol 296, p248) 1982.

The law and order debate

MPs back move to restore birching

Conservative support grew yesterday for a new clause tabled to the Crimnal Justice Bill which would bring in corporal punishment as a criminal sanction for boys aged between 10 and 18 (Frances Gibb writes).

The clause, expected to be debated next Tuesday in committee, has attracted 18 signatures from Tory MPs despite the ruling of the European Court of Human Courts which declared corporal punishment in the Isle of Man illegal.

Mr Vivian Bendall, Conservative MP for Redbridge, Ilford, North, one of the four committee members who supports the clause, said yesterday that with growing calls for tougher sanctions against crime, the clause's chances of success were growing daily.

The clause spells out at length, the means, time, place and manner of a whipping to be inflicted on a boy by order of magistrates.

The sanction would be available on summary conviction where young boys had assaulted or beaten another person, used provoking language or behaviour tending to a breach of the peace, or committed an act of criminal damage.

The court would have to state the number of strokes to be inflicted. A cane would be used on boys aged 10 to 14, and a birch rod on those aged 14 to 18. The maximum would be six strokes for the latter and 12 for the latter.

The Government is expected to back the introduction of curfew orders for young offenders between the ages of 10 and 21. (Anthony Bevins writes).

Mr Nicholas Lyell, Conservative MP for Hemel Hempstead, *has tabled a new* clause to the Criminal Justice Bill which would allow the courts to order youngsters to *stay at home for* specified periods between 6pm and 6am weekdays, and from noon on Saturdays and Sundays.

"It has already been shown to be successful as a condition of bail", he said. Curfew orders, which would be made only with the approval of parents would be designed to reinforce the authority of the family and would punish offenders by keeping them at home when they would most like to be out.

It is understood that the Home Office is attracted to the idea, six of the 10 Tory backbenchers on the Criminal Justice Bill committee support it, as does Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea South. Other Labour MPs *oppose it, however.*

Tramps: Sleeping rough to be legal

Tramps and vagrants will no longer be imprisoned for sleeping rough and begging, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, promised yesterday (Francis Gibb writes).

He said the Government would bring in an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to abolish imprisonment as a sanction for certain offences under the Vagrancy Act, 1824. Some 150 tramps and vagrants are a year for offences under the Act.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP For Ormskirk, told MPs that ending imprisonment for such minor *offences would reduce the prison population*. The offences caused very little annoyance and were certainly not dangerous, and imprisonment was not a deterrent to tramps.

The Home Office should urgently review its recruitment of black probation officers and look at the number of blacks being sent to prison, the National Association of Probation Officers says in two documents published yesterday (Lucy Hodges writes).

It points to "frequent unintended bias and prejudice" in the probation service, the courts, the police and the prison service. It calls for more black judges and magistrates.

☐ The Scarman report, which advocated community involvement in policing, was an inspired document and revealed its author to be "a prophet whose wisdom we ignore at our peril", Mr Alderson, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, said yesterday (the *Press Association reports*).

The way forward was by such methods, not by a "third force" with its CS gas and plastics bullets, he said in a lecture at the Inns of Court Law School in London.

BOY VICTIM OF IRA BOMB IS BURIED

From Richard Ford
Belfast

Grieving classmates of Alan McCrum, aged 11, the victim of an IRA car bomb, formed a guard of honour as his coffin was carried into a church for the funeral service yesterday. Five hundred *people, included the Rev Ian* Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, packed Banbridge Baptist Church, while more than a thousand people listened to an outside relay of the service.

A few hundred yards away in Down's main street, shops and business premises were boarded up — a grim reminder of the 200lb bomb that exploded on Monday night instantly killing the boy as he waited for a lift to his village at Loughbrickland.

The boy's school closed for the afternoon to allow pupils to pay their respects.

In south Belfast a reserve constable with the the RUC was injured last night when two gunmen fired five shots at him as he left work at Queen's University physical education centre. He was not seriously hurt. The gunmen escaped in a stolen car.

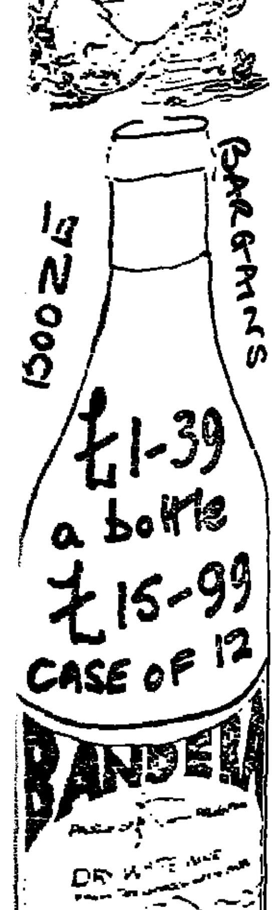
Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon Ll 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria L$6.50; Tunisia Din 0.600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

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Whitelaw to set up inquiry on cable TV control

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Home Secretary is to set up a formal inquiry into the impact of cable and satellite broadcasting on television standards

Mr William Whitelaw is acutely concerned that the imminent increase in the number of television channels, with the first stage of a national cable television system operating within 18 months and with more than 30 channels ultimately from cable links, will mean loss of control over content.

The fear is that standards will slump, with pornography and other substandard material being broadcast by unscrupulous operators.

Satellite and cable broadcasting will involve a number of go-betweens, including programme-makers, operators who beam programmes up to satellites, those who own or lease satellite facilities, people receiving the satellite pictures, which might then be distributed by cable. That multiplicity of input and output, with some people linked into the system directly by rooftop dish-aerials, has greatly disturbed the Home Secretary.

He has stated that the maintenance of broadcasting standards was one of the most important Home Office problems for the future, and Mr Whitelaw's anxiety will have been increased by the powerful commercial and industrial lobby which has been mobilized behind the change.

The Prime Minister will publish on Monday the Cabinet's Information Technology Advisory Panel's report, outling the new system's potential. The Government is expected to approve an early start on cable television and commercial satellite broadcasting.

The departments of industry and employment have, in particular, pressed for urgency. Mr Whitelaw's fears would seem to have been swept aside, to some extent, in the rush for the undoubted investment and employment which will accrue to the space-age television era.

Nevertheless, Mr Whitelaw will announce on Monday the setting-up of a special inquiry panel, to be headed by a prominent public figure, to investigate implications for standards, affectionately known in Whitehall as the Whitehouse factor.

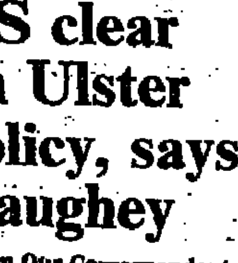
The inquiry is expected to discuss a supervisory framework, either in the form of a statutory body like the Independent Broadcasting Authority or a system of self-regulation like the Press Council, although it was stressed last night that the final recommendation might favour an entirely different system of control.

Superted signs for new Welsh channel

☐ Superted, the bear character in the stories by Michael Young, has been adopted by the Welsh fourth television channel for its marketing drive (Kenneth Gosling writes). A deal has been announced by which the Mark McCormack organization, whose clients include Bjorn Borg and Angela Rippon, has the exclusive rights to handle the bear's international programme.

In cartoon form he will be part of the Welsh channel's output, which expects 40 to 50 countries to order his films quite quickly. The Superted toy bear will soon be in the shops and he is to make appearances at a Cannes telivision festival next month as well as at the All-England tennis championships at Wimbledon.

Mr Laurie Ward, sales director for Europe of Trans World International, the television division of the McCormack agency, said the organisation hoped to dispel the impression that the Welsh channel was "some hole-in-the-corner Welsh langauge television channel".



US clear on Ulster policy, says Haughey

From Our Correspondent
Dublin

Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic said in Dublin yesterday on his return from a visit to the United States, believed Pesident Reagan fully appeciated his policy of seeking a British withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

Mr Haughey said: "At this stage I am only interested in outlining for him the problem as we see it and the lines along with which we think a solution should emerge. The follow up to that will come later. He was fully appreciative of my outline of the position and he fully understood the lines along which I think a solution can be found."

Mr Haughey said the primary political purpose of the visit had been to explain to President Reagan and his administration the policy of the Republic in relation to Northern Ireland

☐ Britain was not told in advance that Mr Haughey proposed to ask for intervention by the United States on the Norther Ireland question, the Foreign Office said yesterday. (the Press Association reports).

President Reagan's statement indicating that the United States did not intend to intervene in Irish affairs was warmly welcomed yesterday in Whitehall.

Mr. Haughey urged the Reagan administration to support the unification of Ireland as a foreign policy objective. His appeal was regarded as the strongest made for a united Ireland by an Irish Prime Minister visiting the United States.

The Foreign Office said: "we welcome Mr Reagan's statement on the occasion of St Patrick's day. The statement as a whole not least his renewal of the proposition that continued violence even by a misguided few can only frustrate the desire for peace of the overwhelming majority of the entire community in Northern Ireland".



New beginning for Land's End

Mr David Goldstone (above), the new owner of Land's End, taking a close look yesterday at the 105 acres of Britain's most famous piece of coastline on which he plans to spend approaching £3m. (Our Bodmin Correspondent writes). Mr Goldstone, a property millionaire, viewed his acquisition after discussions with local planning officials.

On the rockstrewn clifftop he disclosed that he intends a £750,000 restoration for the craggy bit of Britain which attracts about one million visitors a year yet was once described by its previous owner as a "tourist slum".

Mr Goldstone, aged 53, has bought Land's End complete with a house that was once an hotel, an assortment of outbuildings and a public house.

In his plans the public house is to stay and so is a large building named State House, but the other buildings are likely to go. In their place he plans a building to house a permanent exhibition of Cornish crafts

Renovation will not start until the autumn of 1983. Mr Goldstone said: "Land's End was here long before any of us and it will be here long after we have all gone. There is no merit in rushing because we want to make Land's End something of which we can be really proud and which people can visit and not go away feeling disappointed over what they have seen."

How the choir stalls of Buxheim were sent home

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The annual report of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, nearly a year out of date as usual, was published yesterday and contained two challenging highlights. For the first time the committee, guardians of Britain's national heratage, have taken into account the "interests of the European and, indeed, the international cultural heritage" and allowed the export of a work of art.

The second highlight is a new mechanism called the "indefinite stop" which guards against the refusal of recalcitrant art owners to sell once the export of their treasure has been disallowed.

The committee rallied to the standard of the "international heritage" in the case of a group of Baroque carved wood choir stalls

Removed from Buxheim in the 1880s they were installed forst om the chapel of St Saviour's Hospital, London, and then, in 1964, in the Convent of the Presentation at Hythe. In 1980 the convent decided to sell and Sotheby's negotoated their purchase for £450,000 by the Bavarian authorities for reinstallation at Buxheim.

While the commitee agreed with their expert adviser from the Victoria and Albert Museum that the stalls qualified for an export stop on the grounds of outstanding aesthetic and scholarly interest, they conceded that Buxheim had a prior claim.

When the export of an object has been delayed by the committee to allow a British gallery time to raise the purchase price, and the money has been found, owners have sometimes refused to sell.

Under the new rules the owner's willingness to sell will be queried before fund-raising is attempted.

Challenge to left by managers' unions

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Sharp political divisions among unions representing senior managers in the engineering and shipbuilding industries were highlighted yesterday when two right-wing unions combined to challenge the left-wing leaderships of two other unions recruiting members among white-collar staff.

The link has been forged between the white-collar section of Mr Frank Chapple's electricians' union and the Engineers' and Managers' Association (EMA) in an attempt to win negotiating rights from engineering employers.

Mr Chapple and Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the EMA, were both scathing yesterday about the attitudes adopted by Mr Clive Jenkins's white-collar Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) and Tass, the white-collar section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW).

Mr Chapple said he believed those unions would resent the agreement between his white-collar managerial section, the Electrical and Engineering Staff Association (EESA), and the EMA, "or at least I hope they will".

The agreement on procedures the two unions are to adopt on recruiting and representation will cover about 15,000 staff in engineering and shipbuilding.

Mr Chapple said he believed the new link with the EMA would provide managers with the choice of a "less politically biased medium" than Tass and ASTMS.

The prime aim of the agreement between EESA and the EMA, which will also cover membership in the aerospace industry, will be to persuade employers that recognition ought to be granted on the basis that the two unions would not be involved in recruitment battles.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Forest 'land army' of young urged

A "land army" of young people could be recruited to clear and manage more than 250,000 hectares (1,000 square miles) of unproductive woodland in Britain, it was suggested yesterday (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

Mr Douglas Badham, chairman of the Economic Forestry Group and deputy chairman of the Welsh Development Agency, told the group's annual lunch in London that his proposal would bring economic benefit to the nation.

Deported sect members fly in

Relatives of three young members of the Unification Church failed to persuade them to return to their homes when they arrived at Heathrow Airport yesterday after being deported from the United States for overstaying their visit.

The three, Mr Christopher Barnard, aged 21, from Dorking, Surrey, Miss Nichola Raine, aged 27, from Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, and Miss Philippa Chaimberlain, aged 26, from Crowborough, Sussex, left with other members of the church.

Plessey vote ends sit-in

An eight week occupation at the Plessey factory, Bathgate ended yesterday when the workers voted to accept an offer from another company, Arcotronics, to keep open the factory initially employing only 80 of the 330 workforce. Plessey's planned closure of the plant on March 31 led to the sit-in.

New inquiry into police

A second investigation into allegations against Dorset police is to be carried out by Mr James Brownlow, Chief Constable of South Yorkshire. The allegations, made by the Dorset County Post, are of abuse of police powers in the 1970s.

Two years ago, Mr James investigated undisclosed allegations against Dorset Police, but the Director of Public Prosecutions took no action.

Queen to visit son on ship

The Queen is to see Prince Andrew at work on the carrier HMS Invincible. With Prince Edward, she will visit the anti-submarine vessel off Portsmouth next month.

Prince Andrew, who is 22, joined the ship in January in his role as a helicopter pilot flying Sea Kings with the front line 820 Squadron.

Rape complainant 'shouldn't get aid'

From Jonathan Wills, Edinburgh

The woman in the Glasgow rape and assault case who is trying to bring a private prosecution against her alleged assailants should not be given legal aid, the High Court in Edinburgh was told yesterday.

Mr Hugh Morton, QC, counsel for one of the youths allegedly involved, told Lord Emslie, the Lord Justice General, that since the Crown had dropped its own proceedings, it would be "grossly unfair for the state to get round that by the backdoor, through paying somebody else to take up the prosecution ." Lord Emslie said he did not think there was any suggestion of that.

Earlier the court heard further submissions from counsel for the three youths about publicity the case had received allegedly including the publication of evidence. The judges were given files on four newspapers, the Daily Record, Daily Express, the Evening Times of Glasgow and The Sunday Times.

Mr Donald Macaulay, QC, said that the Daily Record's reports were the most significant. It had started the publicity on January 13 by revealing that the Crown had dropped the prosecution.

An article in the Daily Record on January 19 indicated that a reporter had been given access to police notebooks on the case, Mr Macaulay said. Lord Cameron, sitting with Lord Emslie and Lord Avonside, asked how such documents had got to the press.

Mr Macaulay said it was extraordinary that any of the defence solicitors' precognition papers could have reached the Daily Record, putting their client in jeopardy. "The source of the story must be someone on the other side of the fence. I do not know positively", he said.

That publication alone was suficient to deny the three youths a fair trial, he said. The court had before it a complete file of "extremely adverse publicity". After referring to contacts between "Mrs X", the Glasgow woman aged 29, and the Daily EXpress, Mr Macaulay said there were questions about the motivation for seeking a private prosecution. "Who is the true complainer?" he asked. "Who is really motivating it?"

Mr Morton said that from the information available there had not necessarily been any material change in the complainant's state of health since last September.

If the private prosecution were allowed and "Mrs X" were again shown to be unfit to testify, there would be a further delay and another flood of publicity.

After further legal debate Lord Emslie adjourned the hearing until today when it is expected to end. A written judgment is expected at a later date.

Mail robbers exposed by woman 'supergrass'

Thomas Wisbey, jailed in 1964 for his part in the Great Train Robbery, was convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of handling travellers' cheques stolen from mail trains.

He was one of 21 people to appear as a result of information given by Miss Zenith Meer, described as Britain's first "supergrass". Her former boyfriend, William Gentry, leader of the gang that stole the cheques, was also convicted.

Travellers' cheques worth more than a quarter of a million pounds, jewelry and other valuables were stolen from the trains.

Gentry lived with Miss Meer, aged 34, in a council flat in Seldon Walk, Holloway, north London. The flat was used as a distribution centre for the stolen goods according to Miss Meer, who went to the police after her affair with Gentry began to go wrong and assaulted her.

He and two other men, John Dore-Mullins and Salvatore Santoro, travelled regularly from London on mail trains, and sat near the mail carriage, the court was told.

Gentry told Miss Meer he had "a guard in his pocket" and access to the mailbags.

The men, who always carried suitcases, were photographed by transport police at King's Cross and followed. They never completed their journeys, but left the trains, usually at a Midlands station where they were met by car and taken back to London, Mr David Thomas, QC, for the prosecution, said.

Miss Meer, who was under armed police protection, told the court she was in fear of her life. She denied turning informer for revenge or money.

By the time she went to the police they were already investigating and had photographed and followed Gentry, Mullins and Santoro.

Miss Meer described going to Wisbey's home in Remington Street, Islington, north London, and collecting stolen cheques. Wisbey, aged 51, denied the charge but gave no evidence and called no Witnesses.

Gentry, aged 49, of Upper Lismore Walk, Islington, London, and Santoro, aged 30, of no fixed address, denied conspiring to defraud American Express of travellers' cheques and conspiracy to steal mail. Both were convicted. Dore-Mullins, aged 60, of Claphane Road, Islington, admitted his part. The four men and 15 other people involved in the robberies will be sentenced today.

Corporal punishment unlikely to return

CRIME

The Prime Minister does not think that corporal punishment will return to this country, and during question time in the Commons she agreed with Mr James Callaghan, her predecessor, that neither of them had any influence on crime statistics.

Labour MPs protested loudly and laughed when Mrs Thatcher appeared at one stage to search through her papers and then said that murders were at their greatest during the last Government, but she later corrected this to say that she had been thinking of the numbers of police killed while on duty.

When he was questioned earlier, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, emphasized the need for effective policing. He did not accept that vigilantes in society could be right. People who wanted to help should join the Special Constabulary, he said.

He indicated he hoped to bring forward proposals on new police powers and said it was important that the police got the help and advice of the communities they served through discussions with their police authorities. He was encouraging all police forces to do that.

There will be debates on law and order in the House of Lords next Wednesday and the House of Commons on Thursday.

When Mrs Thatcher was questioned, R John Carlisle (Luton, West, C) asked: Does she agree that the remarks made yesterday by Mr Callaghan, where he linked the rise in crime with the rise in unemployment, was typically unhelpful and misleading?

Figures released yesterday show that crime in Bedfordshire has risen by 30 per cent, mainly by children under 16.

It ia about time this House rintroduced corporal punishment.

Mrs Thatcher: So far as I am aware, crime statistics do not show in any way a simple correlation between unemployment and crime. (Labour intrruptions). They do not, in fact, show any simple correlation between unemployment and crime.

About what Mr Carlisle suggests about corporal punishment, I do not think that it will return in this country.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edgehill, L): Will the Prime Minister find time to consider what additional assistance can be given to the victims of violent crime, particularly with telephones and intruder alarms, to people of pensionable age?

In a constituency like mine with 50 per cent unemployment and an increase in crime, is it not a case if the devil finding work for idle hands.

Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Bromley, Orpington, C): In spite of the valiant efforts of the Home Secretary to which I and my Conservative colleagues pay tribute (Loud Labour laughter) the causes of crime are deep-seated and various. They include subjects like the family, school, church, television and many others.

Will she therefore consider whether we do not need to take action on these fronts as well as the criminal law?

Mrs Thatcher: I entirely agree that the causes of crime are deep. If self-discipline breaks down in part of society, that is the difficulty with some of the problems we are seeing now.

It is vital for all citizens to stand staunchly behind the police in carrying out their duty of upholding the law.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab): Can the Prime Minister explain why for each year since she became Prime Minister, the number of serious crimes has increased while, when Mr Callaghan was Prime Minister, the number declined, in 1977, 1978 and into 1979?

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab): That is right.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Dubs will find that murders were at their greatest during the time of the last Government

Mrs Thatcher looked through a sheaf of papers while Labour MPs protested.

She went on: I was trying to find the precise figure but I was unable to.

Mr Callaghan, waving a piece of paper, said: As a matter of simple statistical fact, is it not the case that serious crimes, offences recorded by the police, of violence against the person, burglary, robbery, handling of stolen goods and criminal damage declined each year when I was Prime Minister and have gone up each year since? (Loud Labour cheers)

Despite what Mrs Thatcher said in her election speeches, neither she nor I has any influence at all on those statistics. (Laughter)

Mrs Thatcher: I am grateful to Mr Callaghan for his last comment, which is obviously correct. I cannot reinforce what I said about the number of murders. (Labour interruptions) I was thinking about something else.

I therefore give the House the relevant statistic of which I was thinking, which I had in my mind, although it was not all murders, but the number of police deaths while on duty, which is extremely important.

That is a statistic which equally had not, I think, anything to do with the Government in power, I am having other statistics collected. (Labour interruptions)

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas): MPs have not got a right to shout down if they do not like what they are hearing. All this is ruining Prime Minister's question time.

A Labour MP: Try again Maggie.

The Speaker: Does the Prime Minister wish to continue?

Mrs Thatcher: I think I have made the point sufficiently. They are making a triviality of something which is extremely serious.

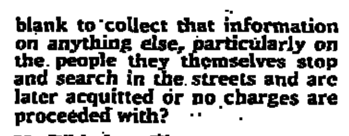
□ The Metropolitan Police were right to break down crime statistics into ethnic groups of offenders, Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said when he was questioned. He added that he knew in advance of the statistics being published and had agreed they should be.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham West, Lab) asked him: In dealing with crimes of violence, does the Home Secretary believe it is necessary to get the statistics right?

Does he think it was fair that the Metropolitan Police should insist on using ethnic statistics for muggings and refuse point blank to collect that information on anything else, particularly on the people they themselves stop and search in the streets and are later acquitted or no charges are proceeded with?

Mr Whitelaw: There were a great many rumours and a great many allegations before these statistics were published. I believe that the truth is far better than rumour and allegations; that is why it was right for the Metropolitan Police to publish the truth in their statistics.

The truth does help to make the leaders of any community realize that they could help and assist the police to isolate the tiny and small minority in their communities of criminals who are causing all the trouble.



Callaghan: No influence



Thatcher: I agree

Police deserve support not criticism

□ The Metropolitan Police deserved the support of MPs and the community and not endless criticism, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, said during other questions on the number of crimes of violence made known to the police during the past 10 years.

Mr Mayhew said that about 100,000 offences of violence against the person were recorded by the police in England and Wales in 1981, which was just over twice as many as in 1971.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend, East, C): Will he look again with an open mind at the introduction of stronger deterrents, even for a trial period, as a means of curbing crime, including the introduction of capital punishment, corporal punishment and mandatory sentences?

Mr Mayhew: There is shortly to be in the committee on the Criminal Justice Bill a debate upon corporal punishment and I am looking forward to that with keen anticipation. (laughter) One hears that the House may have a similar opportunity in respect of capital punishment.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab): Neither capital nor corporal punishment has ever been an effective deterrent. The cause for concern about the increase in serious crime is the economic policies that have led to it and the clear failure of, for example, the Metropolitan Police to catch criminals.

Mr Mayhew: The Metropolitan Police face an enormously complex, even dangerous and difficult task, and they deserve the support of this House and the community, not endless criticism.

Canada must decide its future

HOUSE OF LORDS

The British Government believed that outstanding disagreements in Canada over the Canada Bill were a matter for the people, the provinces and the Canadian Parliament to decide, Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said.

He was moving the second reading of the Bill which transfers to Canada the power to amend the Canadian constitution and repeals the power of the British Parliament to legislate for that country.

Lord Carrington said the Supreme Court of Canada considered that the consent of all the Canadian provinces was not required, by law or constitutional convention, to the making of the request to Britain by the Canadian Parliament to bring *about this historic* change in Canada's constitution. Support had come from nine out of 10 provinces, a substantial measure of provincial consent.

The British *Government* felt the Canadians themselves should decide these matters for them*selves and* the disagreement did not provide grounds for declining to act.

Somewhat similar considerations applied to the indigenous populations of Canada whose existing rights were specifically recognized in the constitution Act which formed a schedule to the bill. But some Indian groups were dissatisfied with it. They wanted more safeguards.

The British Government had always felt that any treaty or other obligations on Indian interests became the responsibility of the government of Canada when that nation attained independance or, at the latest, with the Statute of Westminster in 1931. However, some Indian groups had bought proceedings in the British courts, seeking to rely on their ancient treaties with the Crown.

The Bill would remove the one remaining formal qualification to the independence of Canada. *Since the British North America* Act, 1867, Canada had been either self-governing or, in practice, independant. It was manifestly incongrous that such a country should have to seek legislation in Britain to change its constitution.

In 1931 the Statute of Westminster annulled the power of the British Parliament to legislate for the dominions, with one exception. Canadians had been unable to agree among themselves to a formula for amending their constitution. So it was at Canadian request that Britain's power was retained.

The Government considered that the fact that legal proceedings were pending was no impediment to Parliament proceeding, if it thought fit, to discuss and enact legislation despite the fact that the legislation if enacted might determine the outcome of the litigation or render its continuation pointless.

There could be no certainty about when the various legal proceedings would be concluded. Any delay, especially if other action were then to be initiated as might be the case, would be indefinite.

The Government commended the passage of the Bill but would refrain from either criticizing it or defending its detailed contents. The House should be realistic and not over-concerned at the residual controversy surrounding this Bill. Canada was a large and diverse federal country in which political authority was not concentrated as it was in the United Kingdom. The draft in its present form was the result of a long period of internal consultation in Canada. The resulting package was a compro*mise.*

It was not to be expected that such a package would ever be thought ideal by all concerned. The House should not fail to recognize the achievement of the present settlement in recognizing the diverse interests involved to the extent which had proved possible.

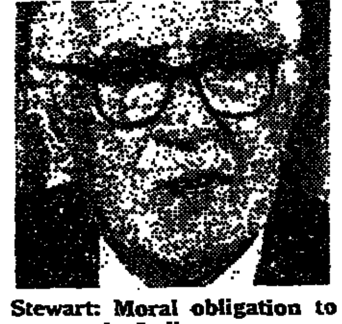
Lord Stewart of Fulham, for the Opposition, referred to a motion he had tabled expressing confidence that the Government of Canada, in consultation with representatives of the aboriginal peoples, would use the provisions of the Bill to promote their welfare.

He said they were now told on the highest legal authority that the responsibility for carrying out any duties they accepted under treaties made with the aboriginal peoples belonged to the parliament and government of Canada. They could not dispute that legal decision, though a number of laymen *still* have an uneasy thought at he back of their mind.

The Indians were not a party to the emergence of Canada to full independence. It must be difficult for them to accept the proposition that Britain's obligations under *those treaties had* now been handed over to Canada, despite the fact that they were never asked whether they wanted that transfer to be made.

But there was a larger issue. This was the question of the treatment by a great and *powerful nation, mainly of* European stock, of people of entirely different race who were a minority and almost in every way the weakest section of the population.

This was not merely a national but an international question. *They had seen great evils* springing from the oppression of minority races, from their being treated with a denial of justice, or, what could sometimes be worse, a lack of imagination and sympathy.



Stewart: Moral obligation to the Indians

In a matter where the principle involved was so great and of such world-wide application, where unquestionably they must feel some moral obligation towards the Indians, they ought at least to make some expression of opinion.

If the Bill was published, there was *no* possibility that the Supreme Court — as had been suggested in the Commons- — *would or could/declare* the constitutional Act of 1982 ultra vires and void. The question was substantially decided against Quebec last September and there was no plausible grounds for delay in passing this Bill.

Lord Shaughnessy, in a maiden speech, said he was a Canadian and *had* become a peer in 1944, and having lived most of his life *in* Canada had not had an earlier occasion on which to address the House. He apologized for the delay.

This Bill would be the beginning of a new, and he hoped mutually rewarding relationship between Canada and Britain. The great majority of Canadians wanted their constitution lodged in Canada.

Nevertheless, there were some specific provisions of the instrument which were strongly opposed in different parts of Canada for different reasons, and he shared some of these legitimate misgivings. The concerns were about the rights of *the native people of Canada, the* political and cultural position of Quebec, the linguistic rights of minorities and the application of some of the charter of rights in the schedule to the Bill.

Canada's record had been better than most on the question of safeguarding the rights of minorities. All native people had the franchise, and, despite some assertions to the contrary, had engaged in consultations *with the* federal government at ministerial and cabinet committee level. All the desires of the native people had not yet been satisfied, but the moral imperative of this issue had been suitably impressed on them by the federal and provin*cial governments in Canada.* Consultation would continue, leading to a gradual solution.

The Bill was the result of a compromise, some might say a characteristically Canadian compromise, but no compromise solution to any problem could ever be entirely *satisfactory* to all sides. Casting a shadow over the future of the Canadian confederation was the concept that had come to be called separatism.

In Canada, they would have to find a solution if the country was to develop and prosper as it *rightly should.*

This Bill (the said) does not satisfy all the aspirations of all Canadians, but in political terms we are the masters of our fate and the captains of our souls and the resolution of our differences must be made in Canada. I *therefore commend this Bill.* (Cheers)

Lord Aylestone (SDP) said what worried the aboriginals in the main was the fear about what was likely to happen after the Canadian constitution had been patriated. *They worried that* their treaties and rights might be eroded.

He recalled that at the 1966 Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference a lot of countries were highly critical of the United Kingdom about the handling of *Rhodesian affairs, but* the Canadians were particularly helpful to Britain.

I cannot believe (he said) any Canadian government today would behave any less well in matters of human rights than they did in the past.

His party felt the best service they could do to their cousins was to get the Bill onto the statute book.

The Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Rev Albert Trillo, said no peer, particularly no one on the *Bishop's* benches, wished to oppose the return of full power of legislation to Canada.

But we just wish to be assured (he said) that our international obligations have been met and that we have done everything in our power to ensure that the protection given by the Crown to the Indians is safeguarded.

Lord Home of the Hirsel (C), the former Prime Minister, said it was his great-great-grandfather, Lord Durham, who wrote the Durham report which set up the *first constitution for Canada.*

This is to some extent for me (the Said) unfinished business.

When he was Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations in the late fifties, patriation was occasionally mooted.

He had taken a definite view that, after the North America Act and the Statute of Westminster, the Canadian Parliament and the Parliament of Westminster were equal in status and that, therefore, should a request for patriation be made with the authority of Canadian Parliament and a measure of support from the provinces, the correct response for the British Parliament was to grant that request.

Plainly (he continued) the future constitutional development of Canada must be settled from now on in Canada by Canadians for Canadians. (Cheers).

He could see no reason why the elected representatives of the Canadian people would not honour the trusteeship towards the Indians of Canada *just as well* as Britain had in the past.

He hoped Lord Stewart of Fulham would not press his motion to a division. This would be a blemish on what otherwise would, he hoped, be a constructive and helpful debate.

New powers envisaged for police

LAW AND ORDER

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, announced during questions about measures to combat the rising level of violent crime, that he hoped to bring forward proposals on new police powers which had been recommended by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

When Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C) called for the introduction of new measures to combat the rising level of violent crime, Mr Whitelaw replied: the Govern*ment has already increased the* strength of the police service to a record level. The full benefit of this will be felt as new officers are trained and become fully effective.

But police effectiveness also depends upon the active support *and cooperation of the local* communities. I am taking steps to encourage and develop this.

Mr Marlow: At a time when one of our citizens falls victim to crime every five minutes, day and night, the public is massively reassured that he is spearheading the campaign against these crimes. We should be considering new and effective measures to abate this appalling increase in crime.

Will he reassure the public that he will bring forward these measures if he feels they are necessary, whatever institutions outside may consider?

Mr Whitelaw: I accept the great concern about this. At the same time it is fair to point out what the Government has done, and is doing — with the wide range of *penalties available to the magis*trates and judges in the Criminal Justice Bill; and the prison building programme and prison maintenance to ensure that those whom the judges and magistrates decide to send to prison, should have places there.

The wide range of penalties available in the Criminal Justice Bill, carrying out our election manifesto, is another step in the right direction. That is the right thing for us to do.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab): *All of us are opposed to the* rising crime and all of us seek to diminish it by effective policing. The dispute is about what is the nature of effective policing.

Where real community policing has been tried, as in Handsworth, it has cut the crime rate on the streets. That is why many of us are supporting comunity policing, because it is effective.

Mr Whitelaw: The talk about community policing seems to be bedevilling our policing system. What we want is effective policing which means harnessing the support, encouragement and help of the local community from *which any police service springs.* (Conservative cheers)

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C): While no one has done more than the Home Secretary to improve the numbers and the morale of the police service, what is he doing *in respect of the greater powers* that were recommended by the royal commission, the longer training recommended by Lord Scarman, and the greater standardization of equipment, particularly radio equipment, which in too many cases is incompatible between one force and another?

Mr Whitelaw: I hope to be able to bring forward proposals which will implement some part of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure plans on police powers. We are making progress on training in all forces and I am *encouraging the provision of the right equipment as well.*

Griffiths: Call for longer training

Mr Peter Snape, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (West Bromwich, East, Lab): Is the Home Secretary satisfied with the deployment and tactics of police forces, particularly in inner city areas, and that police authorities have the right to discuss such matters in areas like Greater Manchester?

That would lead to a more visible police force on the streets and be a far greater deterrent to crime than the unhealthy blood lust shown by some of the Home Secretary's more eccentric supporters. (Labour cheers).

Mr Whitelaw: It is important that the police get the help and advice of the community they serve through discussions with their police authorities. That is part of the business of the Police Act 1964.

If it is going to have success, that is what has to be done and that is what I am encouraging in all police forces throughout the country.

Vigilantes in society unacceptable

□ Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) asked if the Home Secretary was satisfied that the projected increase in police strength in England and Wales was sufficient to deal with the recent increase in crimes of all categories and particularly with regard to street crimes and disturbances in the inner city *area.*

Mr Whitelaw: Yes. At the end of January, the total strength of the police service in England and Wales was 119,508. This is an increase of 9,562 compared with January 1979.

With the further increase in the police strength already provided for in the next 12 months this gives chief officers of police more officers than ever before to carry out the many tasks we expect from our police service.

Mr Winterton: Violent crime against the person is now as important a matter in people's minds as unemployment. With the increase in violent crime, including the setting up of vigilante groups within inner city areas, the situation is growing serious indeed.

What further example can this House give to ensure the courts of this land not only have the sentences to mete out that fit the crime, but they mete out sentences so that punishment is this country fits the serious crimes being committed?

Mr Whitelaw: I appreciate what he says. I entirely support him in his anxiety about the increases, particularly burglary and street crimes, which are certainly serious indeed and which must be *tackled not only by this House,* the police service, and the Government, but by the whole of the community. It is only by a concerted effort that we shall succeed against these particular crimes.

For the benefit of those people who seem to think there is something wrong, the first thing is to have a strong police service. When you have it strong, you need it effective. That is right, and the Government is directed towards that.

I do not accept that vigilantes in our society can be right. If those people who want to help will do so, they could joint the special constables where many good tasks are carried out.

On the sentences of the courts, this House is right to provide sentences; the judges and magistrates carry them out.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C): *While* welcoming the increase of 9,000 police, which I understand includes 3,000 in the Metropolitan Police force, this should result and continue to result in more policemen patrolling our city streets.

That is the best way to get the cooperation and confidence of the public which is an essential element is tackling the rising crime rate.

Mr Whitelaw: Yes. First, it is the Government's job, which it has *thoroughly effective* with the equipment the Government provides to carry out their duties. That is their task and that they will carry out.

I trust they will get in their task the full help advice and moral support of the community as a *whole.*

Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs: Despite Mr Whitelaw's effects, the Government has been unable to fulfil its election promises to reduce the level of crime in this country. He should make clear that in his view the best way to

Mr Whitelay: I agree entirely that is the task. I understand the anxieties expressed and fully accept the problems. I hope it can be said that it is for the community as a whole. After all, there are problems of parental discipline, discipline in our schools, and many other aspects which contribute to rising crime. The police cannot do it all on their own.

Sir Paul Bryan (Howden, C): I welcome the Government's success in recruiting large numbers for the police. The continuous support it has given the police has been a major factor in sustaining their morale.

Mr Whitelaw: I am grateful. I hope it can be said that this support *will be forthcoming from* all sections of the community. Sometimes I find there are people who are more ready to criticize the police than they are to support them in difficult situations.

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab: We are spending more on the police with more police *numbers*, more electronic aids, two-way radios, cars, helicopters, and God knows what else, but we have more crime now than ever in our history. *Why is that?*

Mr Whitelaw: Yes, and the community as a whole needs to examine these factors. There are many reasons for it, but no excuses.

More coloured policemen are needed

While every effort was being made to encourage members of the ethnic minorities to join the police *force* it was also essential to maintain high standards, Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, said.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edge Hill, Lab) had asked what proportion of the Merseyside constabulary was recruited from *ethnic minorities and how that* compared with the national average.

Mr Raison told him: On January 31, 1982, eight Merseyside police officers — 0.17 per cent of the force — were members of the ethnic minorities. The number in England and *Wales* was *343* — 0.29 per cent of the total police strength.

Mr Alton: This is a pathetically small number of people from the ethnic minorities involved in the policing of our community. What steps will he take to improve this?

Does he accept that until the height restrictions are removed, many Asians applying to join and being turned down will continue to be refused admission to the police force.

Mr Raison: We accept the numbers are too low. We have a national group examining the problem and we are conducting a recruiting campaign through the ethnic press and the national press.

As for height restrictions, it is possible for *chief constables* to lower the height limit if they so desire, but as a general principle we do not believe it right to lower the standards of *the police* to meet the point.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): It is essential to maintain the highest possible standard in recruiting to the police, and therefore questions concerning a percentage being from the ethnic minorities are not of prime importance.

Mr Raison: We would like to see the percentage from the minority groups increase and we want to see the best possible policemen. Happily the *standard* of recruiting to the police is rising satisfactorily.

Foot urged to contact Brezhnev

DISARMAMENT

Mrs Thatcher the Prime Minister told Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Opposition, that he should direct his advice on the zero option in disarmament to President Brezhnev. Mr Foot welcomed the Prime Minister's announcement that she would attend the United Nations special session on disarmament in the summer.

Referring to Mrs Thatcher's *answer earlier this week* about her attendance at the special session of the United Nations on disarmament in June, he asked: In view of the rapidly intensifying nuclear arms race, it should be a success and we are glad that she is responding to our invitation to go to the meeting. (Conservative laughter)

When will she be presenting to the House and country the disarmament proposals she proposes to take to the conference and say whether *President* Reagan consulted her before turning down, without consideration, the proposals by President Brezhnev?

Does she not think it a good *idea to consider such proposals* before they are rejected?

Mrs Thatcher: I cannot tell Mr Foot the precise date on which I shall be going. The opening session *takes* some days. It is then that the opening statements *are made and I hope to be there* during that time.

Before President Breshnev made this statement, which, as I pointed out, freezes substantial Soviet superiority of SS20s, there was a statement by President Reagan which included the zero *option.*

Mr Foot: We certainly welcomed that statement when it was made and if it could be translated into a full scale zero option we might be able to make some progress.

On the first occasion on which President Brezhnev *proposed* a stoppage or a holding up of the establishment of SS20s — which, according to the British Government, was well back into 1979 — on reflection it would have been much better if proper negotiations had taken place then, before many of the SS20s were *established.*

Mrs Thatcher: President Reagan's proposal was the zero option; President Brezhnev's proposal was to keep the SS20s but not to *increase* them. It seems to me that Mr Foot should address his advice to President Brezhnev because it takes two to agree. (Conservative cheers)

Mr Foot: Why did she and her Government refuse to negotiate on these matters before many of *the SS20s were established?*

Mrs Thatcher: I take it that Mr Foot approves of the zero option and will urge it?

How can we negotiate on the SS20s? The Salt negotiations were between the United States and the Soviet Union. I take it Mr Foot is really interested in the zero option, *in which case, he* will put pressure on President Brezhnev.

Deputy to be new Serjeant

RETIREMENT

The Serjeant at Arms, Cononel Sir Peter Thorne, is to retire on August 20, and his deputy, Major G. V. S. Le Fanu, has been appointed in his place by the Queen, the Speaker (Mr George Thomas) announced.

Mr Thomas read a letter from Sir Peter in which he said he had been in the service of the House for upwards of 33 years and the time had come when he should no longer retain his appointment.

The Speaker added that after consultation with the House of Commons, which had been unanimous, he had submitted Major Le Fanu's name to the Queen, who had accepted has advice.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said: It should be brought to the attention of the House that these gentlemen are servants of this House which ought to have some means of expressing its views, not only on the merits of the present incumbent, but as to the future appointment.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Wednesday: Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill, second reading. Debate on CAP price proposals for 1982-83.

Thursday: Debate on Opposing motion on law and order.

Friday: Private member's motion on combatting juvenile crime.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Coal Industry Bill, second reading. Taking of Hostages Bill, third reading. Wages Councils (Abolition) Bill, second reading. Debate on hard drug taking.

Tuesday: Canada Bill, committee. Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1976 (Continuance) Order.

Wednesday: Debate on the increase in crime.

Thursday: Canada Bill, third reading. Dissemination of Pornography Bill, second reading.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Evironment issues associated with the coal *industry.*

Move to get more child benefits rejected

SOCIAL SECURITY

An Opposition attempt ot increase the level of child benefit from £5.85 to £6 in November and to build in an increase in every succeeding year, was defeated by a Government majority of 53, during the report stage of the Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill.

To restore child benefit this November to its real purchasing power when the Government came into office, it should go up to £6.25, Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Oppositin spokesman on Social Security (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab) said when he moved a new clause to raise child benefit *to £6 this November instead of* the Government's announced figure of £5.85.

The clause was much too modest, he said. When raised to £5.85 this November, child benefit would be 40p a week less than it would otherwise have been.

The cost would be about £75m, which was chickenfeed in terms of public expenditure. This was the benefit which could have the greatest impact in getting families out of the poverty trap.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab) said child *benefit had been introduced to* treat people whether they paid tax or not in the same way, recognizing that children placed a considerable financial burden on the family.

The case for moving it up significantly still stood, and the tragedy of the Budget was that the Government had done nothing to help the situation. This modest proposal for the extra 15p would make life a lot simpler for Post Offices and would be a *useful addition.*

Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West, C) said families whose income was below the tax threshold were getting substantially more help in real terms than they had 27 years ago.

If MPs were serious about getting help to families with children child benefit was the only way to do that. He would support the Opposition's new clause.

Mr Frank Field (Birkenhead, Lab) said child benefit was one of the weapons for combating child poverty and the way to use it was by increasing the amount paid out. This should become one of the Government's first priorities in its fiscal policy.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) said those who had suffered most under the present Government were the families with children. Over the past 20 years this group had come off worst under the tax burden.

It was time the Government stopped being scrooge *and* showed it had some humanity by agreeing to this little extra.

Mr Anthony Newton, Under secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said everyone wanted to help families with children but the practical realities of the aconomy had to be conidered. Although the increase might sound small, it would amount to some £80m over a year and that was not peanuts.

Lawyers had told him that such an increase might have to be *introduced in April rather* than November and that could mean the total cost rising to more than £200m.

□ *Mr* Brynmor John, chief opposition spokesman on social services, (Pontypridd, Lab) moved a new clause to restore the 5 per cent *shortfall* made in unemployment benefit in lieu of taxation, which had been done under the Social Security (No 2) Act 1980.

He said there was a proposal to tax this benefit in July, and the effect of the Budget was not to restore that abatement. The abatement should be restored. That was what the public had been led to expect.

If it was not done, there would be an element of double-jeopardy or double-penalty. The unemployed should not be treated unfairly.

The Government had said that the cost of restoring the abatement this year was £20m, and £60m in a full year. But this had to be set against the *background that the taxation of* unemployment benifit was expected to yeild in a full year £525m.

If there was £80m available in the social services budget, there was a list of other needs which could take priority over additional *child* benefit. When there was only a limited amount to go round, it was a matter of finding the right balance.

Extra money would not be found by shuffling around the social services budget or the tax rates. It could only come by the *further generation of national* resources in the ecnomy and that was the Government's aim.

The new clause was rejected by 248 votes to 218 — Government majority, 30.

The amendment was rejected by 255 to 202 Government majority — 53.

Minister agrees to release housing law study

By David Walker

The Government has bowed to pressure from local Conservatives and agreed to publish a review of the law on housing homeless families even though ministers are likely to be embarrassed by the mildness of the recommendations.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, has promised Conservative councillors to release a study made by officials of the Department of the Environment on the working of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act of 1977, which requires councils to give priority to homeless families in allocating housing.,

In spite of criticism of the Act by some London councils and by district councils, especially in the South-East, the review is understood to recommend only minor amendments, which could be accomplished by administrative means.

Local Conservatives have demanded a thorough reform of the homelessness law. Last weekend the Conservative Party local government conference in London left Mr Stanley in no doubt about the party's mood. Mr Jeremy Hindle, a councillor from Maidstone, Kent, received applause for a speech demanding repeal of the Act and was afterwards assured by Mr Stanley of the imminence of the Government's response.

But recently Mr Stanley has been encouraging councils to pay more regard to the needs of single homeless people, notably by building hostels. He would find it difficult to take a punitive stance on homeless families.

He has to contend with the results of the inquiry by his officials which began in 1978, before the Labour government which wrote the Act had left office. As evidence has accumulated, it seems that those being housed by councils under the 1977 Act have increased as a proportion of the total being housed. But the reason is that fewer units of housing are available as council building decreased.

Criticism of the Act has been made vociferously by councillors in the London bourough of Hillingdon. It went to the courts over the issue of housing immigrants to Britain who arrived at Heathrow airport, within the borough's boundaries.

Other criticism concerns alleged queue-jumping by families which intentionally make themselves homeless (for example, by leaving the home of parents) to gain preference over other families on councils' waiting lists.

The official review has failed to produce numerical evidence if his abuses of the Act. The local authorities which house the mist homeless are the inner area councils such as Camden in London. That authority, with other Labour councils, has declared satisfaction with its working.

The Government was accused by MPs last week of suppressing an officially-commissioned survey on the plight of single homeless people in London. The survey proposed additional public spending on that group's housing needs.

Industry watchdogs seek more powers

By David Hewson

The National Consumers Council and the London Electricity Consultative Council today criticize the secrecy surrounding the policies of nationalized industries and call for new powers to enable consumer bodies to tackle the problem.

The attack follows the recent decision by the Government to recast the traditional links between Whitehall and the nationalized industries by recruiting private businessmen as non-excutive directors and increasing the monitoring of the sector's performance. The aim, Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for Industry, said, was to ensure that the state industries operated as commercial enterprises.

That desire is reflected by both consumer groups in evidence to Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, who is reviewing the role such bodies have in monitoring state industries.

The council says that a consumers council's report on a public sector industry should carry the same weight as the findings of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. If it found that an industry was not offering value for money, the minister should order the industry to plan a remedy. The industry would have to send the plan to the minister who would lay it before Parliament.

The national council also calls for a "value for money" audit system to include the auditors' conclusion on an industry's efficiency. The national consumers council says the monopolies commission has produced three reports criticizing nationalized industries for their management information and controls system.

The size and complexity of nationalized industries, makes it difficult for management to obtain the information they need to monitor the use of resources, and even more difficult for the boards to exercise effective controls, it says.

The lack of performance standards for the state sector is a fundamental weakness, the council alleges. The immunity of the Post Office for the consequences of a lost letter, and, British Rail's avoidance of liability for cancelled or late trains are criticized as cases where the relationship between industry and consumer is weighed heavily towards industry.

The consumer council suggests a detailed code of practice for each industry. the electricity council says that consumers are "locked into a captive relationship with producers and suppliers and are relatively isolated, ignorant and impotent by comparison with them".

It recommends legislation to create a unified system of consumer councils under the overall control of the national Electricity Consumers Council, and powers covering access to information by consumer bodies and the duty of the industry to promulgate a code of operating standards.

MPs want more fuel for RAF

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

An all-party committee of MPs has urged that the fuel allocation ot RAF Germany should be raised without delay if operational efficiency is not to be put at risk. The cost of fuel and spares, with the annual budgetary system in Whitehall, has forced the RAF's front line to curtail its training programme, they point out in a report.

The hourly cost of flying fast jet aircraft now ranges from about £3,900 for the Harrier to as much as £6,080 for the Phantom. Even the strength of the pound against the dollar can affect the RAF's ability to pay.

Experienced pilots have surrendered some of their ration of flying hours so that younger colleagues can have extra time in the air. The RAF has also tried to make the most use possible of the summer weather for completing training schedules.

The MPs on the Commons defence committee, who compiled their report after visiting British Forces Germany, say that the level of flying there is at the accepted minimum. They urge a return to the fuel allocation of five years ago.

The MPs voice their concern over restrictions placed on the training activities of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) by limiting the track milage on armoured vehicles, helicopter flying and the use of ammunition. The smaller ammunition ration has reduced the level of training to 75 per cent of the officially approved level, although that has not been reached for several years.

The MPs also complain of the noise made by the generator used in connexion with the highly successful Rapier missile, which apparently is so loud that it could reveal the crew's location. They are concerned, too, by the lack of anti-helicopter weapons available to BAOR, given the large number of helicopters in service with the Warsaw Pact forces.

Finally they would like to see more attention paid to teaching German to servicemen and their families. While there are financial inducements, they say the 10 per cent quota of German-speaking officers is still "regrettably low".

Allied Forces Cermany. House of Commons Defence Committee. (HC93, Stationery Office, £4.25).

Walk-out halts Ford

From our Correspondent, Liverpool

Ford's car factory in Liverpool was halted yesterday after 600 plant foremen walked out in a manning dispute. The men voted to take action in support of two colleagues who was given written warnings by the management for failing to carry out company orders.

The two-day dispute, — which will cost 2,000 Escorts worth £9m, — stems from an incident two weeks ago when a relief worker was called in to fill the place of an absentee in the body and assembly plant. He was subsequently replaced by an experienced worker. Shop stewards complained the job was not skilled and should have been done by the relief and 30 men on the night shift walked out.

Ford said: "The plant convenor asked for time to sort out the problem, so we agreed to give a one-shift grace and allow the relief to do the job."

Formen, belonging to the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, refused to accept the decision and were told that disciplinary action would follow. Ford said: "We explained at great length it was only a temporary measure. The plant manager even got out of his bed at midnight to try to sort it out."

Two foremen received written warnings on Tuesday for failing to "man the line" and on Wednesday foremen from all shifts voted to strike for two days in protest.

EEC move to boost jobs

From Ronald Kershaw, Brussels

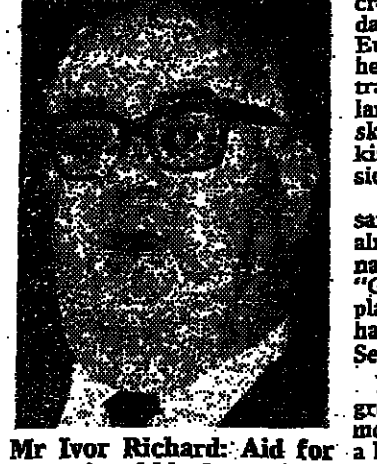
An important initiative by EEC regional aid is being mounted by Mr Ivor Richard, European Commissioner for Social Policy, aimed at job creation in pockets of high unemployment within the better-off regions.

Local authorities will be encouraged to apply for cash for hob-starved communities, but enterprises "with a high private content" will also benefit.

Mr Richard in his review of the European Social Fund is asking for a 40 per cent increase on its £728m budget to develop his "black spot theory". His target is to have the review approved by the Council of Ministers of Employment in the second half of this year.

He explained that regions in Britain which did not qualify as assisted areas frequently had black spots of high unemployment. Yorkshire and Humberside, for example, did not qualify, yet Barnsley had 22 per cent unemployment.

"It seems absurd to have a broad classification because unemployment fogures are not so bad. We can do something for Toxteth but not for Brixton, because Brixton is London and London is not an assisted area.



Mr Ivor Richard: Aid for regional black spots.

"The black spot theory is to break down the classification into smaller areas irrespective of whether they fall into a larger region", he said.

One of the main objectives, was to first break down geographical classifications, and secondly, to tilt assistance in the direction of job creation rather than industrial training. That was not to downgrade industrial training, he said, citing the steel closure areas: "Somebody, somewhere has to try to get new jobs in these areas."

He said the intention was to encourage and put money into the sort of scheme that BSC (Industry) Ltd was carrying out now in its job creation activities for redundant steelworkers. An active European social policy would help with infrastructure, training facilities, particularly in basic management skills, and possibly some kind of employment subsidy."

Proposals in the review, he said, "involved channelling almost all the money through national governments. "Governments submit their plans, then we put up our half of it, as in the Manpower Services Commission."

His object was to get greater flexibility, and to put money into enterprises with a higher private content then at present. "He was also anxious to help those local authorities which were active in running job creation programmes. But the initiative had to come from the areas.

Under the existing rules of the social fund a person with a bright idea for creating jobs might not qualify for aid, being outside the specified area. "If it is an innovative project we ought to give points so that he stands a better chance of getting money if it would be helpful to the community," Mr Richard explained.

Britain last year received £141m, a,most 20 per cent from European social fund.

The carrier-bag car

Mr Alan Evans, in his small car, talking with a cyclist yesterday. The car has solved his parking difficulties. It weighs 130lb and is smaller than some toy pedal cars (Our York Correspondent writes). Mr Evans's 40mph car is fitted with a handle at the back so it can be pulled into the tiniest gap. Mr Evans, aged 31, of Westlands Road, Hull, has spent three months restoring the vehicle, one of only 40 made in the 1960s. "I bought it from Nottingham in three carrier bags", he said. The car, known as the Peel after the engineering company on the Isle of Man where it was built, is thought to be one of the last remaining in the world. It has a 50cc engine and does 100mpg. Mr Evans, who has been made redundant from his job as a contracts manager, intends to set up a factory to produce a similar vehicle.

Lead pollution investigation begins

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution has begun an investigation into the extent of lead pollution and its effect on health. The terms of the inquiry are outlined in an invitation to more than 50 organizations and individuals to submit evidence.

Among other objectives, the commission, under the chairmanship of Professor Richard Southwood, of Oxford University hopes to clarify some of the issues that have become confused in the controversy over lead in petrol.

The subject will be divided into four broad topics. The first is to identify all sources of environmental lead pollution and how it contaminates man. From that information, the purpose is to identify the relative significance of different sources and of each of the routes by which lead gets into the body.

The second topic is on methods for reducing lead in the environment and its absorption by people. The third part of the study will look at the technical and economic options, and their environmental effects, for eliminating lead from petrol. The forth section will examine the impact of lead pollution on wildlife.

Cuts threat to whooping cough research

By Anabel Ferriman

The development of a safer whooping cough vaccine could be delayed because of cuts in the budget of the government-funded research laboratories at Porton Down, Wiltshire.

Britain's lead in the field of biotechnology and genetic engineering was threatened by a cut of 4 per cent in the laboratories' revenue, Dr Peter Sutton, the laboratories' director, said yesterday.

Programmes involving the development of anti-cancer drugs, the production of synthetic human jgrowth hormone and safer vaccines were all lthreatened, he said.

The laboratories, called the Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research, are going to suffer a cut of £200,000 in the planned budget of £5.5m for 1982-83.

Scientists at the laboratory are trying to find a safer vaccine against whooping cough because the risks of brain damage from the present vaccine have resulted in less than half of Britain's children now being vaccinated against the disease.

A new, safer vaccine should be ready for production in larger quantities in three years and for clinical trials in five, but plans could be delayed by budget cuts, he said.

New laboratories were opened at the centre yesterday designed to produce a vaccine against tick encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), a disease which is spreading across Europe.

Correction

In an article on compensation for the accidentally disabled by George Hill on March 12, it was wrongly stated that the Government had agreed to pay £100,000 to all children crippled after whooping-cough vaccination. The compensation is in fact £10,000 and is awarded only if it is judged that the vaccine was probably to blame. Last month only 681 awards had been made of 2,764 claims.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

AA extends car calls to homes

The Automobile Association is to extend its breakdown service to include cars which will not start at members' homes. The new service, to be called Home Start, will cost an extra £5.50 a year and will be available from June for private motorists and from next month for business fleets.

If a car cannot be repaired at member's home, it will be towed free of charge to the nearest AA appointed garage or local garage of the member's choice.

One way to avoid a breakdown at home, the AA said yesterday, was to keep the car's electrical system dry and to ensure that the battery was kept charged.

BBC Russian service strike

BBC Russian language programmes were said to be going out normally yesterday in spite of a 24-hour strike by members of the service against conditions of employment offered to foreign staff (Kenneth Gosling writes).

The strike was occasioned by the BBC's alleged refusal to employ Mr Efim Maidanik, who emigrated from the Soviet Union to Israel where he was recruited to the BBC

Murder charge

Mr Brian George Davis, aged 47, a kitchen porter of Brittany Point, Tracey Street, Kennington, was remanded in custody at Horseferry Road Court yesterday, charged with murdering Elizabeth Margaret Dodsworth, a canteen assistant at Camelford House, Albert Embankment, on Wednesday.

Sir Alec Rose fined

Sir Alec Rose, aged 73, the round-the-world yachtsman, of Eastleigh Road, Havant, Hampshire, was fined £35 at Southampton yesterday after admitting he had ignored traffic lights.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Turks under Tindemans scrutiny

Ankara. — Mr Leo Tindemans, Belgiums Foreign Minister who is President of the EEC Council of ministers, was due to arrive here today on a two-day mission to Turkey on behalf of the Community. One of his tasks is to investigate conditions under martial law.

Diplomatic sources said his talks with General Kenan Evren, the Turkish head of state, Mr Bulend Ulusu, Prime Minister and Mr Ilter Turkmen, Foreign Minister, would probably concentrate on Turkey's plans to return to democracy by 1984.

Military rule, imposed 18 months ago, has strained relaions with the EEC. Last year, the Community froze payment of some $650m in grants and loans in protest at the imprisonment of Mr Bulent Ecevit, former Prime Minister.



Questions for Mr Ulusu (left) and General Evren

Angola rejects 'absurd' claim

Lisbon. — Angola, denying that a South African raid inside its borders had destroyed a Swapo base, said there were no guerrilla camps inside its territory.

"It is anyway obviously absurd that there should be any guerrilla camps so close to the (Namibian) border", an embassy spokesman said here.

South Africa, which said the base was 14 miles inside the border, made the claim at a time when it was trying to show its strength, the spokesman said. "They do not want Namibian independence and they are in difficulties".

Greek students lefter than left

Athens. — If the Greek Socialists had hoped to see their national election victory last October reflected in Wednesday's student elections, they will have been disappointed (Mario Modiano writes). The pro-Moscow Communists retained their lead with 31 per cent of the vote, whereas the Socialists stayed second with 26 per cent.

The Socialists were looking for increased support for the Government's controversial universities reform plans. There was a record 54 per cent turnout.

Space shuttle site switched

Cape Canaveral — The landing site for the third flight of the space shuttle Columbia was switched from California to New Mexico because of floods at the air base outside Los Angeles.

Mission officials decided the Edwards air base in the Mojave desert, swamped by heavy rain, would not be suitable for the shuttle's landing on March 29 and decided to plan the landing for White Sands, New Mexico, the shuttle's contingency landing site. The seven-day mission is scheduled to begin on Monday, with launching from Cape Canaveral's Kennedy space centre.

Ben Bella sees only corruption

Paris. — "Everything is corrupt" in Algeria, Mr Ahmed Ben Bella historic leader of the struggle for independence and its first President, said on Radio Monte Carlo on the twentieth anniversary of independence. Since his overthrow by Colonel Boumedienne in 1965, it had been "totally negative". Agriculture had been "murdered", he said.

Civil servant's body exhumed

Paris. — The body of René Lucet, the social security director of Marseilles whose recent death caused a political scandal, has been exhumed to determine whether he committed suicide or was murdered.

Lucet was a controversial figure well known for his conservative views. He was dismissed and on March 4 was found shot in the head, an apparent suicide.

US to return Nazi art loot

Washington. — President Reagan authorized the return to West Germany of thousands of Nazi art works seized by the United States Army at the end of the Second World War. The Army possesses more than 6,000 works of art commissioned by Hitler to glorify the Nazi cause and war effort.

Britain's budget dispute casts EEC into gloom

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 18

The battle over the size of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget has creaed what could be called "a Europe of the accountants", Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission, complained today.

Speaking to a seminar of the European Movement, he cited the failure to resolve the British problem as the prime example of that lack of solidarity and understanding which was making the achievements of the Community precarious and inadequate.

His pessimistic speech came at the end of a three-day meeting of agriculture ministers here where national divisions loomed large, and little if any progress was made towards a settlement on farm prices by the annual target date of April 1. The one clear hint to emerge from the argument was that France is prepared to use national aids to pay its farmers if Britain blocks a price increase beyond that date.

President Mitterrand made it clear yesterday that the interests of French farmers would be defended resolutely. After yesterday's meeting of the French Cabinet, his spokesman said that France could not allow one government to obstruct the implementation of fundamental Community rules.

Mme Edith Cresson, the French Agriculture Minister, had given a strong indication the previous day in Brussels that France would try to force a majority vote on agricultural prices if Britain were isolated on the negotiations, due to resume on March 31. Having been strongly attacked by French farmers in recent weeks for failing to maintain their living standards, she must have been reassured to hear her President rally to their support.

France, President Mitterrand said, would not accept any dismantlement of the Common Agriculture Policy. It was looking to its partners to say clearly that Europe must either continue to develop or else admit they would like to allow a crisis to develop, which would harm the Community at a moment when European cooperation was so vital.

Britain is confident that it will be able to resist any move to force farm-price fixing by a majority vote and the Commission has already made it plain to France that any national aids paid to farmers would probably be in contravention of the Treaty of Rome.

Nevertheless, both coutries now seem set on an all too familiar collision course for next Tuesday's meeting of foreign ministers, which is to make yet another attempt to resolve the question of the British budget problem. The tour of European capitals by Mr Thorn and Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister who is the current President of the Council, has failed to find any new element which might break the deadlock.

Somewhat idealistically the Commission is still hopeful of finding guidelines for reforming the CAP and identifying the size of the British budget contribution. Mr Tindemans, like most of the member states including Britain, believe that the only way forward will be to try to agree real figures.

All that, however, means that a decision on agricultural prices, which must be intimately linked with a budget settlement, will be even more difficult. A further complication is that the foreign ministers next week will have been given a first glimpse of the 100-page document prepared by the Greek Socialist Government setting out its new demands from Europe.

Greece will not be seeking a renegotiation so much as adjustments in what it regards at the essential areas in the course of routine negotiations. Satisfying the Greek demands will certainly be expensive. They concentrate on higher subsidies and more agricultural fund and regional spending, while asking for a derogation of the right of foreign firms to set themselves up in the country.

It is unlikely, therefore, that the foreign ministers will feel generously disposed towards Britain. Should they have little to report, then Mrs Margaret Thatcher will face a hard job persuading the other heads of government at the European summit the next week to spend time on the problem. President Mitterrand, for one, will want to use the occasion principally for grappling with unemployment.

In his speech today Mr Thorn pleaded once again for member states to find the "political courage" to allow majority rule as a way to give Europe back its impetus and to allow the Community to face up to the challenges of the present. The member states would, however, vote unanimously against such an idea at the moment and the British budget problem will have to be resolved by hard-won promises.

□ London: The long-standing dispute over the size of Britain's budget contribution is expected to feature prominently during talks at Chequers on Friday between Mrs Thatcher and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor (David Cross writes).

The full day of deliberations is not expected to take the dispute much further. But the two leaders and their foreign ministers will have a chance to air their views in advance of the EEC foreign ministers' meeting and the European summit.

Other topics expected to arise include East-West relations in the wake of the Polish crisis and international economic affairs.

□ Athens: Senhor Francisco Pinto Balsemão, the Portuguese Prime Minister, arrived in Athens today on an official visit to seek a reaffirmation of Greek support for his country's early entry to the EEC (Mario Modiano writes).



Battling on through fire and ice

The twisted metal of burnt-out Snowmobiles shows just one of the serious setbacks suffered by Sir Ranulph Fiennes on his way to the North Pole with the British Transglobe Expedition.

But yesterday he and his companion, Dr Charles Burton, managed to escape from the ice floe, 375 miles from the pole, on which they had been trapped by melting ice.

They waited for another ice floe to drift alongside then drove a Snowmobile across before the gap reopened. News of the escape was given in a radio call to their base camp.

Mr Anthony Preston, the expedition secretary, said their back-up aircraft—damaged in a blizzard—had been patched up and would now be able to act as a scout for them. Earlier the explorers had pledged they would carry on to the end of their mission.

The message was given late on Wednesday night in a radio-telephone link between Dr Burton and his wife in London. The explorers are more than half way through an attempt to circumnavigate the world: the journey started and is due to finish at Greenwich.

US will fight to stop missiles in Cuba

From Our Correspondent, Washington, March 18

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, made clear today that the United States would do whatever would be necessary to prevent Soviet nuclear missiles from being stationed in the Cuban area.

The Reagan Administration is studying the implications of a warning by President Leonid Brezhnev on Tuesday that the Soviet Union would take retaliatory steps if the United States went ahead with its plan to deploy 572 cruise and Pershing missiles in Western Europe.

Some American experts took this to be a veiled warning that President Brezhnev was threatening to put nuclear missiles into Cuba and thus rekindle the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. But Mr Weinberger in a television interview today described President Brezhnev's remark as very obscure and ambiguous and said: "We don't know what he was talking about."

Mr Weinberger said any move to put nuclear missiles in Cuba would violate the Washington-Moscow understanding that ended the 1962 missiles crisis and led to the removal of Soviet missiles from the Caribbean island.

□ Moscow: Stung by the cool Western response to President Brezhnev's offer to freeze deployment of Soviet SS20 missiles west of the Urals, the Russians have accused the White House of acting hastily, irresponsibly and without any real policy on arms control (Michael Binyon writes).

A Tass military commentator accused the United States of rejecting the Soviet offer without bothering to study it seriously or giving it any well-pondered evaluation. He said the Reagan Administration always reacted negatively to Soviet proposals because it did not want anything to hold up America's military build-up.

"The hasty and confused reaction of the White House and the State Department naturally prompts the world public to ask what is more prevalent in the present United States policy; sheer levity, lack of experience in international relations or an irresponsible and adventurist approach to the cardinal problems bearing on the destiny of mankind", Tass said.

It said President Reagan's statement that the United States must not simply freeze nuclear arms production but cut down on stockpiles would deceive nobody. It was Washington that rejected the Salt 2 treaty providing for substantial reduction in strategic armaments, and it was the present Administration that was delaying resumption of the Soviet-American talks on this.

"It is difficult to disagree with a statement of Senator Edward Kennedy that the present Administration has absolutely no definite direction in the field of arms control, and that it has no policy of peace but of building up armaments".

The agency accused President Reagan of seeing his chief mission as the deployment of new medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

Tass said the Administration was trying to extend the arms race all over the world, and rejected even American proposals for disarmament that came from the Senate. In pointed contrast, the news agency has been quoting extensively from Western peace movements, to whom the Soviet offer is clearly addressed, showing warm endorsement and support for the proposals.

Washington's propaganda war

Support for Duarte demanded

From Mohsin Ali, Washington, March 18

United States Administration and congressional concern about Cuba's alleged support for guerrillas in El Salvador and for Nicaragua is growing daily.

Mr Robert Kasten, a key Republican senator from Wisconsin, said yesterday he was convinced Nicaragua and Cuba were controlling the left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador and added that the Reagan Administration should disclose more evidence to build public support for its Central America policy.

He said the Reagan Administration had got to bring information into public view and let the people know what was going on. The Administration should move to counter "what is clearly a tide in American public opinion" against support of President José Napoleon Duarte's Government.

Mr Kasten, who is chairman of the Senate appropriations sub-committee on foreign operations, said through a spokesman today he had seen evidence in closed Senate meetings that had convinced him of outside forces being involved in Central America, specifically in Nicaragua and infiltrating El Salvador.

He hoped that a good part of this concrete evidence could be made public without jeopardizing the United States intelligence-gathering efforts so that the American people could come to the same conclusion about the need for help of Washington's allies to straighten out the position in this area.

Mr Kasten, who did not name the allies, added that if they could see what "we are privileged to see" the Reagan Administration's policy would be clearer and much easier to support.

Mr Kasten: Convinced of Cuban involvement

He thought additional background proof of outside intervention, by Cuba and Nicaragua, would help Congress here take a much more favourable look at President Reagan's Caribbean basic economic aid and trade initiative and also at his latest request for $350m (£180m) in emergency aid to the Caribbean basin countries, including $128m to El Salvador.

□ San Salvador: A right-wing group issued a death list yesterday of 34 people including 20 representatives of United States news organizations, a BBC correspondent and the information officer of the United States Embassy in San Salvador. (AP reports).

None of the reporters on the list appeared to take it very seriously. Many said their names had been included on similar lists compiled by left-wing as well as right-wing factions in El Salvador's civil war. One report described the death list as a possible hoax.

The group called itself the Anti-Communist Alliance and had not been heard of before. It claimed affiliation with the Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez Bridage, the most notorious of the right-wing death squads that murder suspected supporters of the left-wing guerrillas with the tacit approval of the Government's security forces.

The journalists on the list included the representatives of the *Miami Herald*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, NBC, United Press International and the Associated Press.

Meanwhile, left-wing guerrillas ambushed a National Guard lorry and burnt three other vehicles yesterday in an area of San Vicente province that the Government claimed to have cleared over the weekend.

Vatican will go deeper into the red

From John Earle Rome, March 18

The Vatican is budgeting for a deficit this year of 36,381m lire (£15.5m), compared with the 1981 deficit of 31,000m lire. This figure was made known today at the end of a three-day meeting of a commission of 15 cardinals from all continents, set up by the Pope last May, to discuss ways of restoring its finances to health.

Given Italy's inflation of nearly 20 per cent and the lira's sliding exchange rate, the estimate suggests that the deficit of the Roman Catholic Church's central administration is being kept under control. Furthermore a statement issued after the meeting, the second since the commission's foundation, said last year's deficit has been entirely covered by the positive and generous response of the faithful throughout the world. After special appeals, they have increased their contributions to Peter's Pence, money collected in parishes and dioceses for the Pope.

Cardinal Giuseppe Caprio, prefect for economic affairs, illustrated to the commission the Holy See's rising expenditure, due not only to inflation but also to its increasing activities and salary and pension awards for the 3,179 staff. At the same time, the statement said, revenue remained stationary, and the administration had succeeded in making economies.

The Pope attended the last session today. The cardinals on the commission will now illustrate the state of the Vatican's finances to their various episcopal conferences. The Vatican's deficit, then of 17,000m lire, was first made known in 1977, but its budget has never yet been published.



Sultan on parade

Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman reviewing a guard of honour at the Royal Armoured Corps' base at Bovingdon, Dorset, where he spent most of yesterday, the third day of his state visit to Britain. He watched various tank and fire power demonstrations before returning to London to host a banquet in honour of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

MP's cleared of plot

Rome, March 18.—Italy's Parliament voted today to shelve charges against two former Prime Ministers and a former Defence Minister of complicity in an alleged secret service cover-up over a bomb outrage in 1969.

A joint session split on party lines and decided there was insufficient evidence to send them to the Constitutional Court. Those cleared were Signor Giulio Andreotti and Signor Mariano Rumor, former Christian Democratic Prime Ministers and Signor Mario Tanassi, former Social Democratic Defence Minister.

Signor Tanassi fell from Office and served six months in jail for taking bribes in a scandal involving contracts with the Lockheed Aircraft Company.

Signor Andreotti was accused of perjury in the trial of those accused of bombing a Milan bank in 1969.

Haiti coup sunk by seasickness

From Christopher Thomas Miami, March 18

Sixteen would-be mercenaries who mounted a feeble attempt to invade Haiti are under arrest in Miami today, recovering from acute seasickness. Despite a strong element of farce the FBI says it is having to take them seriously.

The Coast Guard cutter, the Cape Current, with several heavily armed FBI agents on board, intercepted the men in two luxury cabin cruisers 12 miles off the Florida coast. They fully expected a gun battle but instead discovered the boats bobbing aimlessly with almost every crew member flat on his back. "They were so sick they were useless", Mr Joseph McCollum the chief of the local Coast Guard, said, "They were having a hell of a time."

The expedition began with two advertisements in the wanted column of the *Miami Herald* on February 26. One said "Small multi-national corporations need security help. Short-term compensation plus bonus." Then the advertisement listed a series of numbers easily recognized as army codes for riflemen, *medics* and *special force* soldiers.

The telephone number of the Miami headquarters of the Council for the National Liberation of Haiti, which has a long and sad history of sending invasion forces to the island, was conveniently supplied. Applicants were told to ask for Captain Ben, who in ffact was Captain Benjamin Weissberg, on of those under arrest and charged with violation the Neutrality Act. The force of 10 Americans and six Haitians set off from Miami with 26 rifles, seven shotguns, six handguns, 20,000 rounds of ammunition and military caps vearing the insignia of various divisions of the United States armed forces.

Senate votes to toughen law protecting spies

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 18

The Senate has endorsed legislation intended to curb the activities of people like Mr Philip Agee, the former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent, who make it their business to reveal the identities of American spies.

It voted yesterday 55-39 for an amendment to toughen a proposed Senate Bill by making it a crime for journalists and others to identify or expose covert United States agents if they have reason to believe that disclosure would impair American intelligence activities.

The Bill, known as the Intelligence Agencies Protection Bill, presents a classic conflict between those who want to safeguard national security and those who feel the protection of civil liberties is of paramount importance.

Supporters of the Bill claim that the disclosure of the identities of 1,000 CIA operatives by Mr Agee and of around 2,000 intelligence agents by Mr Louis Wolf in his newsletter *Covert Action Information Bulletin* not only puts the lives of these individuals at risk but threatens to undermine America's foreign intelligence apparatus. They blame such disclosures for the assassination of the CIA station chief in Athens in 1975 and an attempt on the life of another American official in Kingston, Jamaica in 1980.

On the other hand the Bill's opponents, who include journalist groups and civil liberties organizations, argue that the proposed law is an unconstitutional violation of freedom of speech. They point out that the bill would for the first time explicitly make it a crime for reporters and private citizens to publish information obtained from public records.

They also maintain that the proposed law would protect CIA agents who had committed a crime in the United States or acted against American interests. The Bill prevents disclosure of an agent's identity until five years after he leaves the service.

Under the Bill, the activities of former agents such as Mr Edwin Wilson and Mr Frank Terpil, who were reported by American newspapers to have trained terrorists in Libya, would not have been revealed.

Senator John Chafee (Republican, Rhode Island), the sponsor of the amendment, denied that what he described as "the legitimate press" would be seriously restricted by the Bill. "Don't get the impression that you're being absolutely handcuffed", he said, "I don't think the CIA is going to go around trying to nab everybody. You know very well the type of publication the Bill is aimed at."

He added: "You can knock the tar out of the CIA so long as you don't name names".

The Bill, which provides for prison sentences of up to three years and fines of up to $15,000 (£8,300) for each violation, still has to be given final approval by the Senate. But its passage seems assured. The mood on Capitol Hill is strongly in favour of giving secret agents better protection.

Energy Bill takes its toll

From John Best, Ottawa, March 18

The division bell fell silent in the Canadian House of Commons yesterday after ringing without interruption for 16 days.

A compromise agreement between the Liberal Government and the Conservative Opposition enabled the House finally to vote on a Tory adjournment motion proposed on March 2. The motion was defeated but the House rose for the day, on a procedural technicality. Regular proceedings will resume today.

Yesterday's vote ended one of the most bizarre episodes the Canadian Parliament has ever witnessed. After introducing their adjournment motion on March 2, the Conservatives marched out of the Commons chamber and stayed out, refusing to come back and vote on their own motion.

They were protesting against the introduction of a composite government energy Bill which they contended should be broken up into at least eight separate Bills. The Government refused initially to give in to their demands.

Constitution problems for Mugabe

From a Correspondent Salisbury, March 18

Confusion reigns over the Zimbabwe Government's plans to revise the British-drafted Lancaster House constitution.

Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the newly appointed Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, told journalists yesterday that he had been given the go-ahead by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, to rewrite the constitution. "The Prime Minister feels there is a need now to transform our constitution and to move very speedily in that direction", he said.

However, he pointed out that the proposed changes would not be brought about unconstitutionally, repeating an assurance that has already been made by Mr Mugabe.

In fact, while Dr Zvobgo was outlining his vague plans, the Prime Minister was reassuring potential foreign investors that their property rights would be secure with the "iron-clad guarantees" enshrined in the constitution.

The document, which guards against abuses of civil rights and virtually guarantees a multi-party democracy for the next few years, was approved by Mr Mugabe and other parties at the British-chaired Lancaster House peace talks that brought an end to white rule in Rhodesia. But since coming to power almost two years ago, Mr Mugabe has repeatedly stated his party's commitment to the creation of a one-party state.

To make the changes constitutionally, Mr Mugabe will apparently have to win the unanimous support of his political rivals — mainly his war-time ally, Mr Joshua Nkomo, who was dismissed from the Government last month, and the fractured Republican Front (RF) party of Mr Ian Smith, the former Rhodesian Prime Minister.

For the first 10 years of independence, the Declaration of Rights, which generally guarantees civil rights, can be altered only by a unanimous assembly vote.

Amendments to most other aspects of the constitution require approval by not less than 70 per cent of the House and two thirds of the Senate.



Riot police sent to Bydgoszcz after protest call

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, March 18

The Polish authorities appear to fear popular disturbances in the industrial town of Bydgoszcz tomorrow to mark the first anniversary of a violent clash between militia and Solidarity.

A special mass is to be heard in one of the town's churches and leaflets circulating there call for a passive demonstration against martial law.

Riot police have been moved into parts ofthe town which, since the declaration of martial law three months ago, has been one of the quietest industrial centres in Poland. Yesterday the trial of Mr Jan Rulewski, former chairman of Solidarity in Bygoszcz, on charges of manslaughter and careless driving was adjourned until next month.

Mr Rulewski, one of the union's radicals, was badly beaten up during the militia raid a year ago, when the authorities tried to break up a Solidarity sit-in. The charges stem from an unrelated motor incident; but the adjournment of the trial may well reflect the high level of anxiety about the anniversary and about the prospect of resistance.

Zolnierz Wolnoci, the Army newspaper, today for the first time in the official Polish media named one armed resistance group — "The armed forces of underground Poland" — that is alleged to be linked to the killing of a militia sergeant. Both the authorities and the Solidarity underground have expressed concern recently that terrorist factions could develop among young people, impatient with the more mundane forms of protests.

According to unofficial sources, 30 grammar school pupils have been interrogated recently in connection with the murder of the policeman. It is also understood, though not officialy confirmed, that a policeman was shot recently in the Warsaw suburb of Brudno.

Security seems to be at the heart of the dilemma over whether Mr Lech Walesa, the interned Solidarity leader, should be temporarily released to attend the christening of his seven-week-old daughter Maria Viktoria. His wife, Mrs Danuta Walesa, said today that she was now more pessimistic about her husband being released for the ceremony but Mr Walesa's parish priest, Father Henry Jankowski, has said the matter is still open.

If their are signs of a demonstration or if the security police are strongly in evidence, the ceremony could be transferred away from St Brigitta's church to Pruszcz Gdanski, Mr Walesa's original parish.

Unofficial sources say Mr Walesa has been asked to sign a commitment not to take part in any political activities if he is released for the ceremony. But it is not clear whether he has signed. The logistics of the ceremony have become so complex that the Government, which originally wanted to cooperate, may simply refuse permission for Mr Walesa to attend the christening.

☐ Moscow: A leading member of Poland's pro-communist branch trade unions said today his country needed a return to the Soviet-style system of a monolithic trade union movement (Reuter reports).

Mr Eugeniusz Melnicki, chairman of a commission linking the branch unions, said the monolithic unity of the Soviet trade union movement should be a matter of pride to its members.

"We realize even more keenly what a sorry fact is the lack of such unity in the polish trade union movement today", he told a Kremlin conference of the Soviet trade union movement in a speech carried by Tass.

The branch unions succeeded the official movement after its breakup by the creation of the independent Solidarity union in 1980. Left with only a few members, they were suspended along with Solidarity when martial law began in December.

☐ Vienna: Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, called for "a new Helsinki-type conference at the highest level" to find a constructive solution to the Polish problem (Reuter reports).

He was referring to the 35-nation European security conference in Helsinki in 1975 which drew up agreements recognizing post-war frontiers in Europe and fundamental human freedoms.



Top security: Sub-machine guns at the ready, Italian police escort General Dozier from the court.

Dozier deafened in kidnap ordeal

Verona, March 18. — Brigadier-General James Dozier said today his hearing had suffered permanent damage as a result of mistreatment during the 42 days he was a prisoner of Italy's Red Brigades.

The American Army said he had been struck on the right ear when two Red Brigades kidnappers disguised as plumbers seized him from his home on Verona on December 17 and he had later been forced to listen to loud, non-stop rock music through earphones. Doctors at the Walter Reed Army hospital in Washington who examined him after his release discovered a deterioration in his hearing and attributed it to these two factors, the general told Verona assize court judges.

General Dozier was the first witness to be examined in the summary trial of 17 alleged Red Brigades members or associates charged with taking part in his kidnapping. As he left the witness box the general slowly and without expression, gazing into the cages where nine of the defendants so far detained by police remain while in court.

It was the first time he had seen his former captors since Italian anti-terrorist police rescued him from a Padua flat on January 28.

During the raid the police arrested five of the defendants now in court. Eight defendants are still being sought.

General Dozier said that on January 28 he woke suddenly and saw the walls of his prison tent move. A hooded Red Brigades guard was standing inside the entrance of the tent pointing a gun in the direction of his body.

Giving his evidence in English, General Dozier said: "Some people came into my portion of the tent. They said they were police but I was not sure because their faces were also covered. The thought flashed through my mind that this was another group interested in me. I asked them several times who they were and they asked me if I was the general."

It was only when General Dozier tried to push away one of the policemen and felt his protective clothing that he began to realize that his ordeal was over.

Judge Francesco Pulcini asked if he had suffered mistreatment. "The only mistreatment was when I was hit on the ear and the music I was forced to listen to", he replied.

General Dozier complained repeatedly that he did not like the rock music and his captors eventually changed the cassette tapes, but the volume was not sufficiently lowered.

Judge Pulcini asked General Dozier if the Red Brigades had ever threatened to kill him. "Not specifically", the general replied. "However, on numerous occasions when I was removing the earphones to try to get some relief from the music they would tell me that if I wanted to return home I should leave the earphones and they said this was for my protection."

Signor Umberto Improta, an anti-terrorist police officer, said a nationwide search for General Dozier's Red Brigades prison ended when a Venice drug addict put police in contact with Ruggero Volinia, one of the defendants in court.

Judge Pulcini adjourned the trial until tomorrow morning,with one more witness to be examined. Judgement is expected in the middle lof next week. — Reuter.

Submarine graveyard poses threat of radiation

From Rhoderick Sharp
San Francisco, March 18

Old Polaris submarines never die, they simply rot away in the Pacific Trench. But some scientists believe that plans by the United States Navy to dispose of up to 100 aging Polaris nuclear submarines may pose a considerable radiation threat.

The Navy first disclosed its intentions late last year. As the new Trident submarines with their 24 independent missile launchers entered service, up to five old Polaris vessels would be towed 160 miles off the Californian coast and scuttled, to settle in the Pacific at 14,000ft.

Over the next three decades, up to 100 submarines would be disposed of in this way. In recent weeks, the plan has come in for heated criticism from scientists who question the Navy's figures on the amount of radioactivity each may contain.

The Navy contends that radioactivity would only come from Cobalt-60, which would be protected by the structure of the submarine from leaking into the water and has a half-life of just over five years. But this has been disputed by Dr Robert Pohl, a physicist at Cornell University, and Dr Marvin Resnikoff, of the New York Public Interest Research Group.

Dr Resnikoff and Dr Pohl claim that the walls of the reactor would also contain two other isotopes with vastly longer danger periods: nickel-59, with a half life of 80,000 years, and niobium-94, which delivers 17,000 rems of radiation a year. The amount of exposure generally considered safe for a human being is 0.025 rems a year.

Ban on dumping to be lifted

Other scientists feel the submarines have only 20 years at the most before their structures break down and start leaking radiation into the water — and so to marine life and the food chain that leads eventually to man.

The journal *Science* recently reported that there was enough radioactivity in one submarine reactor — 50,000 curies — to equal half the amount dumped into the sea over the last two decades. One curie is thought of as a lethal dose. According to Mr Jackson Davis, a biologist at the University of California, the amount of radiation present will increase as it moves up the food chain.

Despite the United State's publicly professed intention to conduct a full inquiry before any decision is made there are signs that they may be in a hurry. A recent naval submission to Congress held that the service could not afford to have old Polaris submarines lying around "without adversely impacting shipyard operations." Seven Tridents will come into service within the next three years.

This week, a Bill will be introduced in the California state legislature aimed at blocking the Navy's plans. But there will be reduced opposition from another quarter. Next month a 12-year ban on dumping radioactive waste at sea is expected to be lifted by the Environmental Protection Agency.

☐ American concern over the disposal of nuclear-powered submarines will be echoed in Britain, where the Royal Navy is facing a similar problem over what to do with HMS Dreadnought (Henry Stanhope writes). Dreadnought, the oldest hunter-killer submarine in this country is being withdrawn from service and is at present waiting at Chatham dockyard. After its reactor fuel has been removed it will be towed to a semi-permanent mooring and left there pending a disposal decision.

The Ministry of Defence has already been in contact with the Americans in the hope of pooling their transatlantic expertise.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Police find imperial treasure

New York. — Two exquisite, hand decorated pistols made for Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia in the eighteenth century, have turned up in the New York police department's vault.

The ivory and gold floral patterned arms, bearing the signature of Johan Adolph Grecke, imperial gunmaker to the Empress, had been seized in a drug raid in the South Bronx almost ten years ago.

They were consigned with countless other weapons to a police warehouse to be destroyed with all other illegal handguns captured in the city. However, a sharp-eyed policeman noticed their distinction and invited experts from the Metropolitan Museum of Art to assess their quality. Their value is estimated at $200,000 (£108,000).

Assam under direct rule

Delhi. — Assam, in North-East India, has been put under direct rule from Delhi after the collapse of its Government after only two months in office (Trevor Fishlock writes).

The administration, formed by Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress Party, has resigned. Elections will be held within six months. Assam has been a centre of unrest for more than two years because of Assamese resentment of Bengali immigrants, many from Bangladesh. It is the second Indian state in two days to come under direct rule, Kerala being the first when its Government collapsed.

MEP fights to cut air fares

Brussels.— Lord Bethell, conservative MEP for North West London, has asked the European Court in Luxumbourg for the right to try to force down the cost of air fares.(Ian Murray writes). He wants to prosecute the European Commision because he claims it has failed to break a high price fixing cartel among European airlines.

The Commission wants the court to dismiss the case as inadmissible. It says that its request to member states for information on air fares means it is already investigating price fixing.

Chad's change of heart

Ndjamena. — Chad's Government has dropped its opposition to a United Nations-founded African peacekeeping force in the country, officials said here. A delegation would shortly go to Nairobi to confirm the change of heart to President Moi of Kenya, who is chairman of the Organization of African Unity.

The OAU wants the United Nations to organize a voluntary levy of its member states to help to foot the bill for the 3,700-strong force which came to Chad last December

Seoul lifts jobs ban on women

Hongkong. — Women's Liberation groups in Asia are acclaiming the decision of the South Korean Government to end a ban against employment of women in 24 types of jobs (Richard Hughes writes).

The decision to revise the labour law, which prohibits women from working in 30 vocations to protect them from possible industrial accidents, marks the beginning of President Chun Doo Hwan's second term of office.

Aid for Poland

Hollywood stars go on a health kick

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw, March 18

Operation California, Hollywood's charity airlift to Poland, went on tour this week not brandishing, as some had feared, roller skates, cocaine spoons and other essentials of West Coast life, but rather $1.1m (£600,000) worth of much-needed medical supplies.

Despite President Reagan's grain embargo and limited sanctions, a steady trickle of American and other Western aid has been reaching Poland, but few charity operations have displayed such flamboyance.

The 35-year-old organizer—though impresario is the word that springs to mind—is Mr Richard Walden, who like so many former student radicals is now a successful Beverly Hills lawyer. His previous charity efforts include relief flights to Vietnam and aid to Cambodia, areas that have not necessarily been in favour with the United States Administration.

Poland fits comfortably into the list. Mr Walden's current planeload includes a relatively small portion of government-sponsored assistance put together by Project Hope but was told quite clearly not to make any statement critical of President Reagan in Poland. Mr Walden was evidently finding this an irksome responsibility.

Hollywood, however, transcends political frontiers, or so it seems from the lists of actors and actresses who have contributed in some way to the airlift. They include names not normally associated with the American left, such as Frank Sinatra.

Joan Baez, the folk singer, asked the Operation California team to pass a message to the interned Solidarity leader, Mr Lech Walesa. Solemnly we listened to the tape-recorded missive which turned out to be Miss Baez's anti-Russian protest song. "Happy Birthday Leonid Brezhnev". Not unreasonably, Mr Walden asked Miss Baez for a contribution and received a $2,000 cheque.

It is this kind of hard-nosed commercial sense that has put Operation California in business. It cost $74,000 to organize, collect and deliver the supplies, which were donated by American hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and wealthy doctors, largely at the instigation of Hollywood stars.

About $42,000 was raised from other relief groups and the remaining $32,000 was raised through a bank loan.

The result is an undoubted help to Poland's creaking health system. The planeload includes half a million syringes and needles (one of the most serious shortages) as well as medicines and soaps. The aid is distributed by the Catholic Church in Poland, in this case mainly to hospitals in Radom, Siedlice, Lublin and Warsaw.

The long-established charities not unnaturally look with some suspicion at Mr Walden. Accompanied by a beautiful girl described simply as a Hollywood producer, Mr Walden does not fit into easy stereotypes (except those perhaps specifically made in California), and he in turn is contemptuous of the bureaucratic waste of other charities.

He also has serious criticisms of governmental hurdles to the free flow of aid, pointing out that multinational corporations would be quite happy to give far more assistance if the United States Government eased tax laws and repealed, for example, the Foreign Assets Control Act, which limits the shipment of goods to embargoed countries.

Another criticism of Mr Waldron's operation made by rival charities is that having raised the expectations of the Poles, he will now turn his attention to another publicity-sensitive spot. Mr Waldren, however emphasizes that many of his South East Asian programmes are continuing and that he already has enough supplies to fill half an aircraft with aid for Poland.

89 detained in Jakarta election riot

From Our Correspondent
Jakarta, March 18

Indonesia's election campaign exploded into violence today, when about 15,000 people ran amuck in the centre of the capital burning cars and buses. Government officials said later that 89 people had been arrested. One wonan was reported to have been killed and 63 injured.

Troops were sent to Banteng Square to beat back the stone-throwing rioters with tear gas and volleys of bullets fired into the air. Mr Walter Burgess, a cameraman for Visnews, was slightly injured by a stone when attempting to film the rioting crowd burning a government Golkar Party campaign stand.

Mr Burgess said the riot started about 2.30pm when about 7,000 people who had gathered for a Golkar campaign speech were scattered by fire crackers. "It was the Golkar supporters in Golkar shirts who starteed throwing sticks and stones at me; not the outside crowd", Mr Burgess said. "Shortly afterwards I was escorted off by police."

I had to abandon my car as crowds retreating before the troops yelled: "Get back. They are burning cars." I reached an hotel where bullets from the volleys in the air sent foreign spectators on the roof ducking for cover.

Mr Robert Brash, the British Ambassador, was one of those caught up in the riot and forced to abandon his car, British Embassy sources said. They said he was given an armed escort out of the area. By nightfall, spirals of smoke from burning cars rose from scattered points throughout Jakarta.

Calm returned by 8 pm

The campaign for the general elections on May 4, began on Monday with most observers predicting a quiet campaign. The Golkar Party is a sure winner in the elections for the Upper House which is partly filled by presidential appointees, and in which the two weak opposition parties, the Muslim Development Party and the Nationalist Democratic Party, are poorly represented.

A year after the general elections, the Upper House goes on to elect the country's President — a post for which President Suharto is the only candidate.

Detectives net spiderman

Mr Greg Sullivan, aged 26, of Overland Park, Kansas, scaling the south face of the Hyatt Regency hotel in Kansas City. He was arrested and charged with trespassing and disorderly conduct after reaching the top using the window washer tracks.

Law of the gun comes to Georgia

From Ross Waby
New York, March 18

Kennesaw, the city in the state of Georgia where gun owning will be mandatory from next Wednesday, will provide free firearms to those who cannot afford them. The city council of Kennesaw, population 6,500, passed the ordinance on Monday.

The ordinance states: "To provide for and protect the safety, security and general welfare of the city and its inhabitants every head of household residing in the city limits is required to maintain a firearm, together with ammunition".

Mr Robert Ruble, the police chief, said: "We can supply just about any sort of firearm to anybody who does not have the money

Mr Ruble said he would not give guns to unworthy citizens

He would accept, he said, all the guns surrendered to the police force of Morton Grove, Illinois, which recently passed a law banning possession of pistols by residents except police officers and soldiers.

Citizens of Kennesaw assume the gun law was passed as a riposte to the Morton Grove move. But many are dismayed. "It's clearly unconstitutional", Mr Eugene Huck, the dean of Kennesaw College, said. "What are they going to do next? Order everybody to buy a pick-up truck to escape in case of a nuclear holocaust?".

Republican wins Illinois primary

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington, March 18

The results of this week's primary in Illinois, the first poll in the 1982 congressional election campaign, have failed to give a clear picture of electoral trends.

Governor James Thompson, a moderate Republican seeking an unprecedented third term, easily fought off a dual challenge from a doctor who is crusading for lower taxes and a farmer who earns his living as a mule skinner.

He will now confront Mr Adlai Stevenson, son of the celebrated politician of the same name, who is the unchallenged Democratic candidate for the election on November 2.

Mr Thompson's choice for Lieutenant-Governor, Mr George Ryan, the state House Speaker, also emerged victorious in a three-cornered contest. This was an outcome of considerable political significance, as one of his challengers, Mr Donald Totten, and extreme right-winger, had received the White House's blessing and was aided by Mr Lyn Nofziger, the President's long-term political adviser.

However, the overall picture produced by the Illinois primary results was confused because of the effects of redistricting (boundary changes). Illinois has lost two Congressional seats as a result of re-apportionment, which meant that some incumbents ended up representing the same districts and had to run against each other.

Madrid rebukes generals for abusing King's name

From Richard Wigg Madrid, March 18

The Spanish Government has condemned the "abusive use of the King's name" at the coup court martial and against a campaign to diaparage democratic institutions by the 32 accused and their defence lawyers.

Alerted by the newspapers, which have been expressing worries for days about the possible dangerous effect on public opinion, the Government rebuke came last night after a Cabinet meeting which considered the problem, but decided it must be for military justice to take action.

The statement also charged the special police anti-coup brigade with investigating last week's revelation by Lieutenant-General Jaime Milans de Bosch, when cross-examined, that other colonels were involved preparing a more radical coup.

Several of the accused have refused to give the prosecution any names and the Government, in an evident effort to discourage an impression of half-heartedness, denies the rumours that the special police brigade was about to be wound up.

The attempt by the defence to involve King Juan Carlos and, to a lesser extent, Queen Sophia, has been constant

But this week defence lawyers, several of whom have emphasized in court their extreme right-wing sympathies, stepped up their aggressive campaign against the King and Democracy, seizing the opportunity provided by the cross-examination of Col. Antonio Tejero and Col. José San Martin, the former intelligence chief of Admiral Carrero Blanco, Franco's one-time Prime Minister.

Until rebuked by Lieut.-General Luis Alvarez, President of the Supreme Council of Military Justice, several lawyers, in an orchestrated move, began maintaining the King's support was a fact.

The defence council, as *ABC*, the Madrid monarchist daily in an editorial pointed out today, wilfully ignored the democratic constitution by invoking alleged obedience to the King as Commander-in-Chief, for Spain has a limited monarchy. The armed forces, according to the 1978 constitution, have to obey the civil authority, like all other government servants.

Col. Tejero ended his cross-examination today formally declaring on his honour that he had met General Alfonso Armada two days before the assault on Parliament, a meeting which the former deputy Army chief maintains never took place.

Obote says sorry to Cardinal

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, March 18

President Obote of Uganda has expressed regret to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Kampala, Cardinal Emmanuel Nsubuga, for the incident last month when armed soldiers entered his cathedral and forced out priests and worshippers in a search for anti-government guerrillas who had fired mortars at an army barracks in the Ugandan capital.

The meeting between them took place after Cardinal Nsubuga had called for an official apology for what he said was sacrilege.

President Obote told the Cardinal that Uganda's security forces must observe the law, even when searching for bandits. He also undertook to investigate complaints of looting harassment and arbitrary arrests when security forces carried out a large-scale sweep designed to clear the Kampala area of "undesirable elements" earlier this week.

According to Uganda radio, the two leaders agreed on a joint statement affirming their commitment to law and order; but President Obote emphasized that his Government had an obligation to counter terrorist activities.

During the attack on the barracks on February 23, mortars were fired from around of the Roman Catholic Cathedral. Church leaders said this was done without their knowledge.

The unstoppable women of Milan

The unstoppable advance of Italian fashion is spearheaded by the women of Milan. They are instantly and uncannily receptive to swings of fashion mood, and the advance guard was already marching out in the spring sunshine this week in the short, flirty skirts, the long blousons and the higher heels that were being shown on the catwalks for next autumn.

Now women are rising through the fashion ranks, with strong female designers and organizers challenging a male-dominated society that still celebrates an annual "lady's day".

The biggest ovation of the fashion week was given to Fendi, whose formidable team of five sisters (and three of their daughters) produce the most creative, covetable and technically dazzling furs in the world.

Carla Fendi, who heads the family firm says that from a creative point of view it makes no difference whether a fashion designer is a man or a woman. She and her elder sister Anna work with Paris-based designer Karl Lagerfeld who shapes the most humble furs like squirrel, rabbit or weasel into soft poncho coats, intricately-worked three-quarter jackets or sweeping capes.

The technical achievements of the Fendis are all their own. They have pushed the finishes and decoration of fur beyond known fashion boundaries. Persian lamb is perforated until the skin is reduced to an airy mesh, giving a new lightness and softness to the "old lady's" fur. They showed beaver splashed with inky blue and green abstract patterns like a Jackson Pollock painting. Suede is printed in the pattern of Florentine end-papers. Squirrel is treated with pointilliste stencilling; mink is cut into a spider's web; rabbit skins are joined with the zigzag lines of an electro-cardiogram.

"Women have a certain stubborness in their nature", says Carla Fendi. "And our traditional patience is an important factor in the world of furriers where the first answer is always 'no'. We Fendis have a fighting family spirit that get things done".

Carla Fendi, dressed in ink-blue suede trousers and chocolate brown sweater (Milan's two dominant colours for next winter), paid tribute to the Italian woman: "She immediately senses a message of fashion. Every woman should have a sense of her own body and style and she has a duty to herself to make something of it. Our women have that feeling."

When Mariuccia Mandelli of Krizia showed me round their knitwear factory, I realized that there is also a deep well of traditional female skills which Italian designers can draw upon.

Nimble fingers were weaving angora into a witty white sweater decorated with black "ermine" tails. Sweaters like that sell to collectors for £300 upwards and feature mainly the savage heads of the wild animals which both repel and fascinate their designer.

"Italy has no petrol and no resources, but we do have our golden hands," says Mariuccia Mandelli, who is a perfectionist about workmanship and showed me with pride a tweed blouson shaped into the impossibly tiny pleats that are a Krizia trademark.

"From a physical point of view I feel close to other women and I think it helps to be a woman designer", says Mariuccia Mandelli whose husband, Aldo Pinto, is her business partner.

She tries on everything herself, slipping a glittering puff-quilted evening jacket over her workaday khaki trousers and fluffy brown sweater. Exquisite workmanship marks the divide between Italian designer clothes and the rest of international fashion.

Laura Biagiotti's family comes from Florence, that mecca of Italian artisans. She brings to her designer collection fine attention to detail and a rich Renaissance feeling — laced sleeves, tapestry printed taffeta and jewel-coloured woollens. She also has, both personally and in her clothes, the warmth and femininity that foreigners like to think is typically Italian.

After a gruelling work schedule, Laura Biagiotti emerged in the evening in a smock of pearl white taffeta and told me that she believed that modern women want to keep romance and femininity in their wardrobes.

"I call this my doll dress", she explains. "I am not a doll — I work a 12-hour day. But I try to create a style of dressing suitable for a working woman that is not a blazer and shirt, which is just a copy of male dress".

Laura Biagiotti's soft cashmere dresses and wrap poncho coats (an important Milan line) are a seductive challenge to the sharp tailoring, the butch blousons and the short sombre flannel skirts that are offered by male designers like Gianni Versace and Claude Montana for Complice.

The elegant regiment of women, has not yet routed the other sex. Giorgio Armani was holed up in his palazzo refusing to reveal his new collection to the press (although he managed to design for two other shows).

The leading Italian line is short (two inches above the knee) and medieval in feeling with a lot of pageboy tunics sometimes worn with short-of-the-ankle trousers. Coats are three-quarters or big and long. The poncho coat is the star. Suede and leather are everywhere and predominent colours are black, red, ink-blue and truffle chocolate brown.

Current collections available from: **Fendi, 37 Sloane Street, SW1; Krizia at Harvey Nichols; Laura Biagiotti at Simpsons.**

FENDI



Above: The fighting Fendis, left to right, Alda, Franca, Carla, Paola, Anna.

Left: Fendi's short coat and a patched cape made from a mosaic of dyed squirrel pieces with a bold plaid lining.

Photographs by Harry Kerr.

KRIZIA

Above: Mariuccia Mandelli, "From a physical point of view I feel close to other women".

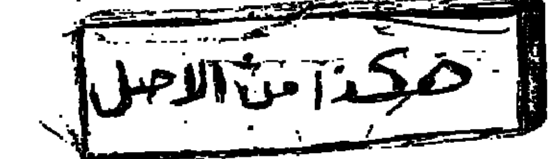
Left: Krizia's tapestry-patterned long blouson over a finely-pleated short skirt and matching knitted sweater.

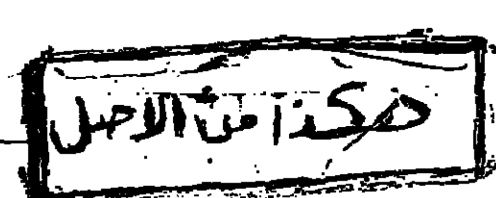
BIAGIOTTI



Above: Laura Biagiotti, "Modern women want to keep some feminity".

Left: Laura Biagiotti's romantic ivory silk taffeta dress, decorated with tucks and panels of pink roses.







Above: The fighting Fendis, left to right, Alda, Franca, Carla, Paola, Anna.

Left: Fendi's shot coat and a patched cape made from a mosaic of dyed squirrel pieces with a bold plaid lining.

Photographs by Harry Kerr.



Above: Laura Biagiotti: Modern women want to keep some femininity.

Opera

Good to look at

Donizetti

Collegiate Theatre

It was another red-letter night for the Donizetti Society and rare romantic opera aficionados as the operatic curtain at this year's Camden Festival rose on the British première of two one-act Donizetti works that had slept in reserve stock ever since their first double-bill performance in Naples in 1831. They will be aired again tonight and tomorrow.

There are usually one or two good reasons why the dust has grown so thick. The "melodrama" *Francesca di Foix* and the comedy *La romanziera* were composed between *Anna Bolena* and *L'elisir d'amore* and certainly show Donizetti beginning to cut his expressive coat according to his technical cloth. But both are too long by half, and, even with a brave, neatly-tailored English translation by Don White, for every witty couplet, for every jolly or affective tune, every piquant moment of orchestration, there are yards of note and word-spinning that little can save.

What did just save the evening were the visual pleasure and ingenuity of Steven Gregory's designs, beautifully lit by Tim Bell, equally versatile and strong, well-chosen casts, and vibrantly energetic musical direction from David Parry conducting the English Symphony Orchestra.

Since *Francesca di Foix's* tale of misguided deception, suspicion and jealousy at the sixteenth-century French court is incredible, slackly structured and dramatically vacuous, the producer, Sally Day, had to work hard. She chose to play up the musical clichés by sending them up with yet more clichéd stage routines — an acceptable idea in theory, but clumsily, at times embarrassingly, overdone.

The vocal and dramatic skills of singers like Della Jones (a splendidly swaggering Page), Donald Maxwell (a rubber-faced, stentorian, villainous Count) and Russell Smythe (a dashing, vocally virile King) are considerable enough; and Gillian Sullivan, as radiant as ever, made the hour well worthwhile with her agile, ringing fioritura, as golden as her costume and the autumnal light on the castle walls.

For *La romanziera*, these walls cunningly formed the interior of a 1920s salon. Russell Smythe became Filidoro, the fiance of Lady Antonina, Della Jones was transformed into a romantic grande-dame of a lady novelist, while Donald Maxwell reappeared as a neatly characterized, unflaggingly resonant literary agent, *Tommaso*.

The linking spoken dialogue is missing from this work, and Opera Rara have made an ingenious job of reconstructing, resetting, rewriting and generally cooking up a piece of theatre that can house Donizetti's notes. But here, with weaker plot and ensembles, the production had to work even harder, and one was painfully conscious of the fact in the valiant but seemingly endless send-ups of stock arias, the laboured comic business.

Again there was plenty for the ear to enjoy, particularly in Russell Smythe's tireless, musical and mellow handling of his flowery set pieces, and in Della Jones's colourful vocal and physical stamina.

Hilary Finch

Cinema

The moral behind a savage enigma

El Salvador: Another Vietnam

ICA Cinematheque

Death is my Trade (A)

Paris Pullman

Rough Cut and Ready Dubbed

ICA Cinema

The Secret Policeman's Other Ball (AA)

ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

Wild Women of Wonga (A)/Glen or Glenda?

Scala

The most salutory film from this week's decidedly heterogeneous selection is Glenn Silber and Tete Vasconcellos's **El Salvador: Another Vietnam**. American-made, it is vehemently anti-interventionist; and the clarity of its exposition and weight of documentary evidence are shocking and unduckable.

The credit titles reveal the huge range of archive sources that have been searched to make the case, to show how the old oligarchy maintains its grasp of the wealth of El Salvador by the simple process of eliminating any opposition from those who have been denied even the smallest share. Like any other argumentative documentary of the sort, this one invites us to see and hear the testimony of people — priests, politicians, missionaries, peasants — who argue the case for the underprivileged. The difference in *El Salvador: Another Vietnam* is that the next moment we are likely to see the abused corpses of these self-same people being retrieved from shallow graves.

The viewpoint is not only that of the resistance and revolution. The cameras accompany a military detachment ostensibly implementing the vaunted agrarian reform programme; the operation, which is called a "sweep", turns out to be an undisguised policing and punitive exercise. President Duarte himself has his say, to answer, with undeniable if unguarded logic, the charges that a lot of peasants have been killed: naturally they have, he says, since *most* people in El Salvador are peasants.

The film-makers remain unemotional and rational, and their film presents both a moral and an enigma. The moral (voiced by one of the San Francisco longshoremen who boycotted military shipments to the junta) is that hunger and oppression create more revolutionaries and Communists than Russia or Cuba could ever make. The enigma is how soldiers — whether here or in Poland, whose military regime looks almost benevolent beside that of El Salvador or anywhere else — can be trained to turn their guns, ruthlessly and unquestioning, upon their own kin.

Part of the answer is provided in Theodor Kotulla's *Aus einem deutschen Leben*, shown here as **Death is my Trade**, which recreates the life story of Rudolf Höss, the commandant of Auschwitz who with relentless efficiency raised the daily rate of extinctions, to become eventually responsible for the death of millions of Jews.

Seeking an explanation for the "good soldier" enigma, Kotulla quotes an American psychlogist, Stanley Milgram, who wrote a study of *Obedience to Authority*: "The essence of obedience consists in the fact that a person comes to view himself as the instrument for carrying out another person's wishes, and he therefore no longer regards himself as responsible for his actions . . ." Höss was the perfect case-history, not "a heroic figure struggling with conscience, nor a pathologically aggressive man ruthlessly exploiting a position of power, but a functionary who has been given a job to do and who strives to create an impression of competence in his work."

A boy soldier devoted to his officers in the First World War, Höss joined the Freikorps after it, dutifully shooting Spartakist revolutionaries. The drift through unemployment to the SA was inevitable, as was the zeal to justify Himmler's confidence in promoting him to run the Auschwitz programme.

Kotulla's film, based on Höss's reminiscences — written while awaiting execution — and Robert Merle's novel *Le Mort est mon métier*, shows a man who sees no blood on his hands, only ink. It is a routine job, sitting at a desk, passing plans for gas chambers and crematoria, adding up the daily figures, checking train timetables and consignments. For Höss, Auschwitz is the office; and, when a shot is heard, he turns his back in cheerful confidence that "the officer will put it in the report", that in the end it is all statistics on paper.

Men like Höss are dangerous not because they are inherently wicked but because they are dull and stupid. It is a proposition that is not easy to dramatize. Villains we know make good drama. Dull men tend to stay dull. Conscientiously Kotulla has resisted any temptation to sensationalize his material. He practically never shows us the victims. As conscientiously, and at great length, he details every step of Höss's progress. For all the care and good intentions it grows terribly ponderous; and the danger is that, when even a slight boredom is allowed to set in, the sense of the importance of the subject is all too rapidly dispersed.

The perils of obedience and conformism are apparent again in the documentary reportage **Rough Cut and Ready Dubbed**. It is not a specially sophisticated piece of film-making — it is, after all, the work of ten teenagers, imaginatively subsidized by the Greater London Arts Association and the British Film Institute — but is is as lively and intimate a view as we have seen of punk bands and their followers.

Many of the performers (most notably the urchin Cockney Rejects) are bright as berries and totally self-aware. Most of the fans are tribals, conforming not just to their obligatory uniforms as skins or mods or punks but also to group attitudes on race, authority and riot. There is a startling glimpse of the power of the performer as demagogue: a musician recalls how a word to the punk supporters at a concert was enough to launch a sharp military fashion mop-up of hostile skins in the audience. It is a funny, amiable, truthful and finally disquieting ethnographical study of the lost tribes of London.

Reverting momentarily to El Salvador, Ol' Hopalong proves the undoubted star of **The Secret Policeman's Other Ball**. John Wells has added to his twitchy Denis Thatcher (who never seems as smiley as the real thing) an eerily real Ronald Reagan, beaming under his pancake as he menaces Reds of all colours, and experiencing grave difficulty in putting his pistol back into its holster.

It is only one of the unruly treats of the annual charity show in aid of Amnesty, this year unassumingly put on film by Julien Temple. Other memorable highlights include Billy Connolly's loving reminiscences of the crunch of glass underfoot at Glaswegian parties, and Alan Bennett's characterization of a mild-mannered married man charging out of the closet in W.11.

Since someone had the notion of a Golden Turkey award there has been a campy vogue for bad films. It is a harmless spectator sport, and all next week the Scala provides a double bill of two of the worst. The 1950s seem to have been the classic nadir; the dominant characteristic of the most enjoyably awful of such films is foolish, blind ambition. The makers of **Wild Women of Wonga**, for instance, set out to make a lusty South Seas romance given only a few yards of Florida shore, two beach huts thinly disguised with grass and a bunch of non-acting no-talent apparently picked off the street.

At some point they clearly recognized the idiocy of the thing and played it for laughs. The quality of Edward D. Wood Junior was his invulnerable innocence in the face of his own folly. Glen or Glenda?, a problem picture about transvestites (in 1954 sex changes were in the news), is a muddle of bad acting and worse writing, diabolic dream sequences and endless scenes of devastated wives coming upon their hubbies wearing their best sweaters and stockings. The star turn is Bela Lugosi as chorus, surrounded by skeletons and fuming retorts, and acting the celestial puppet master with joyful cries of "Pool the streenks!".

David Robinson





A wild week in the cinema: Billy Connolly in "The Secret Policeman's Other Ball" and "Women of Wonga" in line for a Golden Turkey award.

Television

Hunted hunters

Television returns frequently to the subject of blood sports. It is something of an old chestnut but it makes for good pictures and high-temperature controversy. BBC2's Forty Minutes last night dealt with fox-hunting and conveyed, more starkly than I have seen before, the mutual incomprehension that exists between hunters and hunt saboteurs.

It was quite apparent that those who spur their mounts fearlessly at the highest hedges in pursuit of the fox would never be able to make the leap to land them in the intellectual territory of the anti-foxhunter. They and the saboteurs are irrevocably in separate cultures. So we saw many witnesses but no converts either way.

The Hunt Saboteurs' Association, which has 4,000 paid-up members, comprises people of obvious zeal who believe that man should exist in partnership with animals. Most, it appears, are vegetarians who subsist on brown rice, lentils and wholemeal bread, eschewing animal products, a diet which might challenge the resolution of most of us.

They even rise earlier than the hunters, for they have further to travel in search of their prey and, as we saw, despite the most thorough campaign plans, sometimes have to hunt the hunters — who, foxy in every way, are likely to take off early and in unexpected directions, just to make the saboteurs' work more difficult.

The "sabs" did not conform with any stereotype, being not uniformly addicted to long hair, Marxist affiliations or resentment at what might be thought an upper-class sport. One, to establish his reasonableness, declared himself a regular reader of the *Daily Telegraph*. They do regard hunters as "maniacs" and "sadists" and, if their legal tutor was correct, are themselves filed on police records as "urban terrorists not connected with the IRA".

Some hunters accepted them as part of the rural scenery. "We have a very friendly lot of antis", said one benign hunting lady. "They are very nice. They open gates for us". This attitude was not shared by all. We saw one confrontation where a farmer was threatening to break saboteurs' necks; another where farmworkers made a start on a similar project. Contestants on both sides of this skirmish were contented they had won a victory — the rural aggressors, a physical one; the bloodied saboteurs, a moral one.

In verbal arguments between foot followers of the hunt and saboteurs, each side took great pains to produce moral credentials. Supporters instanced public works to attest their humanity; saboteurs lectured on the sanctity of wildlife.

One of the cameramen who recorded this immensely visual but inevitably inconclusive essay was kicked in the groin by a hunter during the course of it. Was that deliberate, one asked the producer John Percival? Preserving a commendable neutrality to the end, he declined to say.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Realms of rapture

BBCSO/Barshai

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Beethoven did not have a great deal of time for emperors, so one can well imagine his annoyance that we should still be calling his fifth piano concerto by its baseless nickname, and his amazement that, nearly two centuries after the event, we should be performing the cantata he wrote at the age of 19 on the death of the Habsburg ruler Joseph II. More than a dubious title, though, justified the choice of these two works for Wednesday night's BBC Symphony Orchestra concert conducted by Rudolf Barshai, and more than a harmonic compatibility, the concerto being in E flat and the cantata in C minor. Both works swept before us strong and vital, and also serenely beautiful in their centrepieces.

In the concerto, Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich found for the start of the slow movement a miraculous textured pianissimo, at once clear and opaque, like frosted glass, and seeming to hold the music stationary. He then quickly, and rightly, turned away from a manner that could have appeared precious if prolonged, but he returned to it for the breathtaking transition to the finale, so that as soon as the rondo was under way he could snatch back the veils and ride off at a cantering pace, his rhythms upright and secure.

The memorial cantata, possibly the best piece Beethoven wrote before his mid-twenties, is no mere pious homage but a genuine expression of the grim concern any radical young man must have felt at the death of Europe's most enlightened monarch within a year of the storming or the Bastille. Its big C minor choruses are already moving out of conventional tragic grandeur into the personal realms that Beethoven was to find in this key. The middle soprano aria with chorus is simply rapturous, and here was sung with rapturous simplicity by Felicity Lott, who still kept me listening open-mouthed through the considerably less wonderful recitative and aria that followed.

One thing the cantata lacks — inevitably, given its purpose — is a rousing conclusion, and very cleverly that was supplied by a march and chorus from *The Ruins of Athens*, bringing us back to imperial E flat and also reminding us once more of the present vigour and wholeness of the BBC Symphony Chorus.

Paul Griffiths

Sensitive texture

Phemios Trio

Purcell Room

Nowadays we tend to assume that a composer such as Max Bruch wrote in a sub-Brahmsian dialect, yet this is probably to miss the point. The three movements from his Acht Stucke, Op 83, with which the Phemios Trio of Amsterdam began their concert on Wednesday had a lyricism of their own, a vein of melodic inventiveness and a style of writing for clarinet, violin and piano considerably different from that of the greater composer. At some points one was briefly reminded of Elgar.

This, in any case, is a good team, each player having a fine technique and well-developed sensitivity to ensemble textures. These qualities were even apparent in a piece by the contemporary Dutch composer Tristan Keuris simply called *Music*. This exploits the medium resourcefully and is shaped by a sombre, hovering violence. Yet, although the drama is quite convincing, there is no originality here.

The remaining works in this excellent programme were all of maximum originality in their own times, although when Stravinsky arranged his *L'Histoire du Soldat* music for violin, clarinet and piano he extensively recomposed it.

The influence of ragtime, an old music in America by 1917 yet still new in Europe at that time, is acknowledged in the movement headed "Tango-Valse-Rag", but in fact runs through the suite. The Phemios Trio's rhythmic acuity was therefore much appreciated.

Mozart's very different stylistic requirements for his Trio K 498 were also well met, especially in the opening Andante. This had a delightful warmth, clarity and grace. With its cadenzas for clarinet and violin, Bartok's *Contrasts* is far more virtuosic in conception, although the music is just as closely argued. The performance was again notably confident and spontaneous, however, with the quick outer movements generating, through their rhythmic displacements, a stinging intensity.

Max Harrison

Chris Gregory



Ngema (left) and Mtwa: careers transformed

Background: "Woza Albert"

Townships in life

Woza Albert, South Africa's most successful play in the last couple of years, was conceived as an attempt to call the bluff of the Dutch Reformed Church, the spiritual bastion of apartheid. It dramatizes a visit to the country by Christ, known by his local name of Morena. Predictably the bluff is called, the politicians find he is too much of an awkward customer and Morena is allied with the struggle for black liberation in a concluding scene in which he raises folk heroes like Albert Luthuli and Steve Biko from the grave.

Its success before integrated audiences at the Market Theatre in Johannesburg and on tour round the townships has been immense, enough to prompt the producers to take the show to Europe, the United States, in August to the Edinburgh Festival and in September to the Riverside Studios in London. Next Tuesday BBC 1's *Everyman* is showing a large section of the play and portrays how it evolved.

That evolution began in local theatricals in the black townships where Mbongeni Ngema and Percy Mtwa first met. "We grew to like each other and we both felt we needed to do something more satisfying theatrically", explains Mtwa.

Both are atheist children of Christian families and identify with some bitterness the role of faith in the maintenance of apartheid — "everything is done in the name of God". They put together a rough version of the show and eventually managed to interest Barney Simon, co-founder of the Market's resident group The Company. He sent them back to look more closely at the South Africans they portrayed and then he worked at pulling the play into shape.

Simon's adoption of the play transformed the careers of both actors. Previously they had moved from show to show in the townships but now they had a major city theatre and most important of all, a creative home.

The run began with everybody concerned expecting censorship at some stage. Nothing happened. The usual process is for a member of the audience to complain to the authorities but they heard nothing and remain, so far, unscathed.

To white audiences now growing accustomed to a steady flow of creative work from blacks, it was a successful play. To black audiences it was an affirmation of their contempt for and hilarity at the system. Simon had worked hard to sharpen the edges of the caricatures of blacks and whites and the result produced such delighted recognition in the townships that the play regularly played 15 or 20 minutes longer than in Johannesburg.

Dressed in track suit trousers and plimsolls, Mtwa and Ngema use few props — the odd additional item of clothing, tea chests for seats and ping-pong balls for their noses when they are playing whites — and employ a variety of languages, though for non-South African audiences there will be some translation. Whether this recipe exports successfully remains to be seen, but, in this country at least, the immediacy and familiarity of the political issues should overcome the unfamiliarity of the range of reference.

But, for Simon, there is no problem of communication anywhere: "South Africa is full of life, the life in the streets of the townships, and that's what's in this play. That's what people will remember when they see it."

Bryan Appleyard

Theatre

Whispered lessons

A Little Like Drowning

Warehouse, Croydon

Anthony Minghela's *A Little Like Drowning* is obviously a labour of love, a memorial to the turbulence of an Italian domestic heritage that stretches from the heat of Italy to the cold and damp of England and Ireland. It has so much familial intricacy, with scenes frim the past, and four generations of characters at many different points of their lives, that Mr Minghela has felt obliged to provide a family tree.

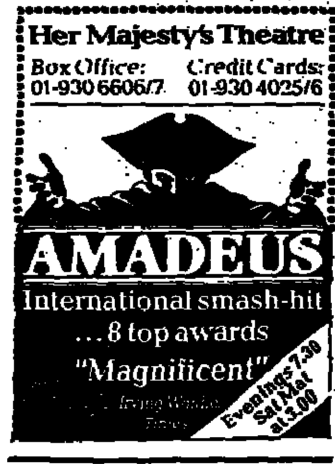
An even clearer statement of his intentions is in the dedication he prints to the memory of his grandmother. It is not a fashionable sort of drama that he offers her, taking as its concerns the sanctity of marriage and the ramifications of a broken Roman Catholic marriage, but he offers several different levels of understanding. That diversity means that at least one level will speak with feeling to many different audiences.

The grandmother of the play remembers events which are represented dramatically, so that the fiasco of her wedding night in Italy is tenderly staged with Jenny Howe transformed in a moment from a crotchetty woman of 72 to a skittish bride. Haluk Bilginer is established as the Anglo-Italian husband in that scene, established first as a creature of memory and then establishing his own existence so that he darts in and out of the action, taking a mistress and finally running away to Dublin with her.

The characters remembered into being become independent of the memory, yet in the present continue with the grandmother speaking to her youngest grandchild, passing down her experience and even theological speculation to the only willing listener. Mr Minghela's play, benefiting from the sympathy of Rod Lewis's production, is so delicate in its concern with each character that it often exudes understanding at the expence of drama. While lives go tragically astray in the search for happiness, Mr Minghela seeks to pass on lessons whispered across the generations. For the most part, he makes those whispers matter more than dramatics.

Ned Chaillet

● The English National Opera revival of *La Bohème* at the Coliseum, which Hilary Finch reviewed on this page last week, was directed by Peter Forster. Jean-Claude Auvray, who was responsible for the original production, has not supervised the current run of performances.







Former Rhodesian Prime Minister Garfield Todd on Zimbabwe's political future



Garfield Todd, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia from 1953 to 1958, favoured the gradual advancement of Africans to equality with whites. He instituted the commission which proposed freehold tenure for Africans in towns and the abolition of the pass system.

Uneasiness among hes cabinet colleagues led to his being ousted from the leadership of the United Rhodesia Party and the premiership, and as the policies of white supremacy intensified, Todd became increasingly isolated. In 1972 he was detained under security regulations and was restricted to his ranch until 1976.

He was a political adviser to Joshua Nkomo's delegation to the Lancaster House constitutional negotiations that led to Zimbabwe's independence and is now a senator in Zimbabwe's parliament.



Multi-racial seating in Zimbabwe: blacks make up 97 per cent of the population

Why one-party rule would work

Zanla and Zipra, the military arms of the people, fought not just to change the name of our country but to clear the way for revolutionary changes in its politics, economics and social structures. Rhodesia was a white man's country. Zimbabwe is a land for all her people, 97 per cent of whom are black. Success must be measured by the degree of change, by the benefit which this brings in the life of the people. For example, in 1980 there were 800,000 children in school. Now we have 1,600,000 scholars.

In the past the 800,000 extra children would have been loitering around the villages because there was no place for them in school. Schools are full: schools are over-full: all through the country schools are being built. There is hope and morale is high. The largest vote in our budget is not for the army but for education.

Free medical care — not as adequate as we would like nor as good as it will be — is available to all people who earn less than Z$150 (about £114) a month. This means most people, for although minimum wages have doubled there are economic limits which are not subject to government control.

And how is the health of the economy? Lord Carrington said recently: "Considering how Zimbabwe got its independence and the problems the country was facing, the Government has made enormous progress economically and politically". David Rockefeller said he was impressed with what he had seen and commented: "Potential investors must be encouraged to come to Zimbabwe and see for themselves". When such comments are made by such men what can I add but "Amen?".

Visitors judge from the figures supplied to them. I reach a similar conclusion by observing the improvement in the life-style of the people. Policies of "sharing", of "socialism", of free primary education and health services, of much better wages, have already raised living standards in the homes to such a marked degree that the suppliers and manufacturers of bread, sugar, milk, meat, cooking oil, blankets, shoes and clothing cannot meet the demand.

As for newsprint, there is a chronic shortage. Daily paper circulations have soared, and the extra 800,000 children in school have an insatiable appetite for exercise books. Most people are better fed and better clothed but the revolution only starts there. The real change, the matter of supreme importance, was to restore dignity to the people, to let a new day dawn. Now there is no longer "white" land and "black" land, no longer white privilege and black queues.

The first people's government has made dynamic changes which can be seen everywhere. In 1980 whites held all senior posts in the civil service. Now 13 blacks and 17 whites are permanent secretaries, 43 blacks and 41 whites are deputy secretaries, 49 blacks and 38 whites are under- secretaries. All editors of our papers are blacks, and from the thousands of our people who are returning from universities around the world and from our own university are emerging new leaders in industry, commerce and agriculture.

Mr Ian Smith and those who follow him look at these changes with deep apprehension: thousands have left and this is sad but inevitable. Change had to come and those whites who were able to understand and who are ready to take their place as committed Zimbabweans are accepted with a measure of generosity and respect which was not expected or foreseen in the days of the war. The Lancaster House agreement gave the whites protection in land rights, in the civil service and in political representation. Whites have never recognized that privilege was transient and dangerous and that their safest course would be to renounce it and identify themselves with the blacks as full citizens, not making special demands but offering their important skills and experience to the new Zimbabwe.

But what about socialism and Marxism? The economy is a mixed one and will remain so, whether that is good or bad. From the level of cabinet ministers to the humble wives of polygamous peasants, human nature has its way. "Give my greetings to Robert Mugabe", said one old woman, "and tell him my chickens are my own".

> 'The key to democracy is not necessarily a multi- party system ... the freedom of a man to vote for his representative at regular intervals is what matters'

David Rockefeller, in Zimbabwe, said: "The societies of the world are in various stages of social and cultural development and it seems to me natural and even desirable that they adopt different forms of government and different philosophies". Admittedly we have enormous problems: inflation, unemployment and under-employment. There are only a million jobs in the cash economy and if 800,000 families have to live as peasant farmers on an acceptable economic level then vast tracts of land will have to be acquired by Government from white farmers and made available for black farmers.

And what about the one-party state? The war was fought to bring freedom to the individual, not to set up any particular type of government. The key to democracy is not necessarily a multi-party system, a British type democracy or an American one. Whether one-party or multi-party, the freedom of a man to speak and to cast his vote for his representative in government at regular intervals is what matters.

Each country has its own problems to face and we certainly have ours. The discovery of caches of arms sufficient to equip 5,000 men has caused uproar, confusion and political storm. But there have been no mass arrests, no riots. Trouble there is, but not disaster. The Government has really not felt at risk and this should be reassuring.

For 20 years we have had political rivalries: there have been minor tragedies and great sadness but we are a living and viable country; established in freedom at the cost of 27,000 precious lives. I have known Joshua Nkomo with affection and respect for 30 years. I deeply regret his present suffering. It would have been simpler for us if our liberty had been won by one army of 50,000 men instead of Zanla with 30,000 and Zipra with 20,000 — the forces of these two armies met at one point on my ranch so I knew them both.

Now the two armies and, incredibly, units of the Rhodesian forces have been amalgamated into our National Army — a united and stable force. This reassuring fact should be set against the discovery of arms for 5,000 men but with no men to use them and no evidence of a plot.

In the bitterness of the moment Dr Nkomo's men will stay in Government, a triumph for the good sense of Nkomo and the responsible conduct of the Prime Minister. Change I welcome. A one-party state I can accept if it enshrines the liberty of the individual to speak openly and to vote in secret. A one-party state could well be our best form of government for it would bring together the mass of our people who have similar political aspirations but who might divide on the grounds of tribe and personalities.

I have worked with the people for 48 years and I am confident that Zimbabwe will remain stable and prosperous. This conviction is firmly based on my intimate knowledge of many thousands of young men and women who have passed through Dadaya School. It is reinforced by my knowledge of such leaders as Josiah Tongogara of Zanla fame and of his friend Jason Moyo of Zapu, both now resting together in Heroes' Acre.

My faith in Zimbabwe is buttressed by the actions and speeches of a great man, Robert Gabriel Mugabe and by my belief that the people of Zimbabwe will never lack the leadership of dynamic and dedicated men and women.

David Watt

Putting the President in his proper place

The muddle about whether President Reagan was really invited to address the British Parliament, and if so, whether in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords or in Westminster Hall, has been magnificent.

Like Trooping the Colour, it is the kind of thing the British do best, with everyone moving into his place with well-drilled precision and a natural sense of occasion, the Government a picture of courteous embarrassment, the Opposition huffing and puffing, the Speaker expressing stagey bewilderment, *The Daily Telegraph* admonishing the White House for bad manners, and a steady susurrus of crowd noises in which only the names of de Gaulle, Churchill and King William Rufus can be faintly but incessantly heard.

All very cheering. But admiration for a great performance should not be allowed to abscure the underlying and still unanswered question - which is whether, to put it crudely, we need to butter up President Reagan, and if so should we, like Disraeli, "lay it on with a trowel."

If we were a less inhibited society situated somewhere to the south and east it would be easy. We should just give our guest the best of everything, including Westminster Hall, *simply* because he was our guest. But since we are living in a Protestant country between the 50th and 60th North latitudes we make distinctions and grade our visitors, and that being so, it becomes a serious matter to *calculate* how important they are to us, how much we owe them, and how much we want from them.

The majority of the Labour Party, united on this subject, as least, with Mr Foot, would presumably argue that we owe Mr Reagan nothing — rather the reverse, since he has exported high interest rates to us because of an obsession with defence spending, and is busy spoiling the West's relations with the Third World on our behalf. And we want nothing from him except, very implausibly, that he should desist from these transgressions and complete disarmament negotiations with the Russians as rapidly as possible.

The defence of Western Europe is an American interest, and in any case Europe is over-defended, considering the unlikelihood of a Soviet attack. In these circumstances, the President is entitled to a little frigid courtesy as the head of a supposedly friendly state — tea with the Queen and a glass or two of hock in the Royal Box at Covent Garden (heaven knows we pay enough for the place); but on the whole we would much rather he flew straight on to Dublin.

Mrs Thatcher takes a very different view. She evidently believes that we owe Mr Reagan a great deal — the inspiration of a monetarist with the courage of his convictions, the support of a doughty opponent of communism and Soviet expansion, and much besides. What features larger still in the calculations of the Government, however, is the need to keep the United States fully committed to the defence of Western Europe and therefore convinced that the allies are equally committed to the United States.

Given the present tensions over the Middle East, Poland, economic sanctions against the Soviet Union, and burden-sharing in the alliance, there is a serious risk that American public opinion would turn against Europe and that we should see Congress enacting the kind of punitive troop cuts in Europe envisaged in the 1960s by Senator Mike Mansfield. This can be headed off by demonstrations of loyalty and affection in Europe to put alongside the placards and demonstrations of anti-Americanism and neutralism that will undoubtedly line some of the streets.

The hinge of this dispute (insofar as it is not merely a contrast of instinctive pro- and anti-American reactions) is a judgment about how the balance of the argument is tilting in Washington. This is by no means a simple calculation. At first sight, the "anti-Europeans" constitute a formidable body of opinion just now.



Mr Reagan: do we really need to butter him up?

First there are the new right-wing Republican congressmen and senators who came in on the Reagan coattails. These are not so much isolationists in the old sense as unsophisticated and inexperienced, and they are suffering from a violent nationalist fever caught amid the humiliations of Vietman and Watergate.

They reflect, on an exalted plane, the sentiments of the man on the Milwaukee omnibuss which are that America has been pushed around too long, that we ought to sought out those Reds' and that those god-damn Europeans had better "shape up" or else.

Next there are the Californians, from whose windows the Pacific is the normal view, and who have come to Washington in the President's train with their heads full of supply-side economics and ambitions to cash in on the growth of the Asian economies (which make Europeans by comparison look so effete).

Then there are the blue-water strategists. Republicans, for complicated historical reasons, have been wedded to the US navy, and the US navy has been more interested in the Pacific than the Atlantic, which has been furrowed in the past to an inconvenient extent by the British navy. The tendency of this combination to favour Pacific over Atlantic operations in the fight for resources was a thorn in the side of Churchill during the Second World War, and has to some extent continued to this day.

It is reinforced, moreover, by appeals to a famous and respectable intellectual progenitor, Admiral Alfred T. Mahan, whose seminal nineteenth century views about the significance of sea power have become fashionable again in some Pentagon circles. Mahan's ideas were original and comprehensive, but the one that finds the most important echo under present circumstances is the notion that the US is, geographically speaking, really a gigantic island power.

In Mahan's day this island was self-sufficient, but now it is not; it is forced, like Britain in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, to bear a lonely burden of world power, mainly at sea, in order to protect its internal base.

Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence, probably has to be counted as a member of this group, moderate one. He is a highly civilized Anglophile, but it is significant that his great hero is the younger Pitt, whose coalition against revolutionary France was a ramshackle affair of considerably less significance than his perception of the necessity to resist the French on grounds of British interest.

It is easy to suppose that against this confederacy the traditional alliance of multilateralists is outgunned. But the struggle is much more evenly matched in terms of men and *matériel* than it looks. There is the State Department and the Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, with his Nato background. There is the East Coast establishment of the post-war years, aging but still powerful; there is the East Coast press and television centred in New York; there is the financial and industrial world whose investment markets are still heavily Europe-orientated; and there is the ethnic vote which, while it has the refugee's contempt for those left behind, is also determined that Europe should not fall under Soviet hegemony.

That is really the point. In the end, however desirable it may seem to combat communist expansion in the Far East and Africa, however dangerous the situation in the Middle East, it is in Europe that the main panoply of the Soviet Union is arrayed.

In a period of detente, Mansfieldism is a possibility, but the more menacing the Russians appear to be, the less possible it becomes to take risks with European defence. A successful Mansfield "amendment" of today might possibly earmark forces in Europe for switching to the Middle East in case of emergency, but the chances of a radical withdrawal are remote in the extreme.

That is no argument, of course, for Mrs Thatcher not being nice to President Reagan on personal grounds or out of admiration for his country. It merely means that she is not absolutely obliged to give *him* Westminster Hall for reasons of state.

The author is Director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House. He writes here in a personal capacity.

Could Roy belong to Glasgow?

by Willie Hamilton MP

As an Englishman, I have survived for 32 years as the MP for West (now Central) Fife. So why shouldn't Mr Roy Jenkins, one-time Chancellor of the Exchequer, one-time Home Secretary, one-time President of the EEC, and one-time member of the Labour Party, win a parliamentary seat in Glasgow week? If the Scots can accept English folk like Mrs Judith Hart and myself, surely they can embrace a Welshman like Mr Jenkins?

The Scots might be nationalists, but they are internationalists too. They have colonized the world. They have provided more British MPs in the last 100 years per million of population than England and Wales. There must be at least 50 Scottish-born MPs in the House of Commons representing English constituencies. And the Queen is partial to the tartan with more than a touch of Scots blood in her veins.

So what could be more natural than to welcome such and intellectual heavyweight as Mr Jenkins? He may not be able to roll his Rs like a Scot. He may prefer claret to whisky. He may not be able to quote Rabbi Burns, or cut much of a figure in a kilt. Maybe he could learn to play the bagpipes and dance a Highland reel. There is a lot of cultural education to be done, *once the by-election is won.*

And there is the rub. Roy has to convince those tough Glaswegians that he is one of them, or can be one of them in due time.

When I went to Fife I went from a miner's home in Durham to a mining seat in Fife. I could speak the same language. My way of life was the same. I felt at home. I was not an intruder. I was not a carpet bagger. I was *invited* by the West Fife miners to be the Labour candidate in 1945 after they had failed to find a Scot to fight the sitting Communist MP, Willie Gallacher. And I have been in Fife ever since. Most of my best friends are Fifers.

So there is hope for Roy. He, too, is the son of a miner — a Welsh miner. But there the similarity ends. For him, Hillhead is simply a means to an end. If vaunting ambition is to be satisfied by stepping on necks, then the stepping stones may just as well be in Glasgow as anywhere else.

Roy had a miss at Warrington. He frightened the Labour Party, and the Tories were never in the running. The Welsh origins were not an obvious drawback; nor the peculiar posh accent; but it must have grated a bit. The lack of any coherent policies seemed to be no handicap. Why should it be in Glasgow?

As a parliamentarian and a minister, Mr Jenkins had an impressive record. Whatever his denigrators may say, I can honestly concede that I never heard him make a bad speech in the House on anything, in any capacity. He is an eloquent speaker, and an outstanding debater; when he was winding up a debate you could sit back in confidence knowing that he would demolish the opposition.

No one should underestimate Mr Jenkins or write him off. He is a considerable political figure still. His principles are sufficiently flexible to enable him to change them from day to day, and from one audience to another. What he said in Warrington he does not say in Glasgow. That is the great advantage of belonging to a party without policies or leader, whose camp followers can yell at Tory and Labour alike: "a plague on both your houses".

That might deceive for a time. But the day of reckoning is bound to come. It may arrive for Mr Jenkins on — Thursday.

Book men buy back a future

The seven senior partners in London's largest literary agency, Curtis Brown, are buying the business back from the City financiers who have owned it since 1967. Their purchase includes some of the most richly-endowed literary estates, including those of C. S. Lewis, W. H. Auden, John Steinbeck, Elizabeth Bowen, Joyce Cary, R. C. Sherriff and A. A. Milne, the last still an industry in itself.

Curtis Brown was founded in 1899 by (Albert) Curtis Brown, until then the London correspondent of a New York paper. His son, Spencer, sold it in a £165,000 cash-and-share deal in 1967, to Industrial Finance and Investment, which later became the Dawnay Day Group and was in its turn taken over by Jacob Rothschild's RIT a couple of years ago.

The change in ownership now represents a recognition by the money men that literature might after all best be left in the hands of men (and women) concerned with letters rather than figures. It will not affect Curtis Brown's working relationship with the host of living authors the agency represents, such as Patrick White, John Betjeman, Samuel Beckett, David Lodge and Frederick Forsyth.

The newly independent company will, though, incorporate Spokesmen, an associated firm dealing with writers, directors and designers in film, television and theatre. The chairman will be Richard Odgers, whose speciality is films and West End plays. The joint managing directors will be Michael Shaw, who represents Antonia Fraser, Robert Lacey, Malcolm Bradbury and Gore Vidal; and Peter Murphy who almost monopolizes theatre directors.

What price RIT have set on the well filled package I cannot disclose but while acknowledging that the financial investors have been "very decent" one of the newly-liberated directors did say: "It feels like it will be Lent for ever."

THE TIMES DIARY

Bugs Bunny has been to Cambridge University. He has also had a well-attended reception at the American Embassy in London, and today will be visiting the Great Ormond Street children's hospital. Meanwhile his friend Daffy Duck has been on a waddle round St. James's Park.

The two Loony Tune characters, regulars from a Marriott theme park in California, are here to publicize the tourist attractions of the Santa Clara area. They are, of course, elaborate costumes animated by humans, whose anonymity is carefully preserved by a typically American security system. The creatures are allowed to go nowhere unaccompanied.

Piet Dankert, the Dutch socialist who is now president of the European Parliament, fosters relations with the press at diners débats. *Last week, after an excellent dinner (three courses, two wines), British representatives asked him how he would vote if he were voting in Britain at the next general election. Quick as a flash came the reply: "Social Democrat of course."*

Lancashire lilt

When discussing world affairs with Margaret Thatcher at Chequers today, Helmut Schmidt will be speaking fluent slightly American English. Yet he once had a strong Lancashire accent.

As a boy he spent a term in 1932 at a school in Manchester, and says that 20 years later was still finding it difficult to correct his pronunciation.

On the wall of his bungalow in the grounds of the Chancellery is a cutting of an interview he gave to the *Manchester Evening Chronicle* at the time. He was paid a guinea for it, which compared handsomely with the 30 pfennigs a week pocket money he was used to at home.

Cereal rights

The Bishop of Truro wins applause for his Grace (quoted here yesterday) using other people's material. The thanksgiving prayer preferring corn flakes to porridge comes from *A Book of Graces*, published by the Women's Institute, and won an even bigger round of applause when used by Peter Jay, on breakfast television, at an occasion organized some time ago by the Women's Advertising Club of London.

Cat fancier

A Toulouse-Lautrec painting of the Irish singer May Belfort comes up for sale at Sotheby's on March 31. She is shown at the Café-Concert des Décadents dressed as a child and holding a small black cat, so she is presumably singing the song which made her famous: *I've got a little cat, I'm very fond of that.*

Appropriate to the *menue*, though, Sotheby's say that her real fancy was for frogs, snakes and scorpions and that she had a sadistic nature. Lautrec, of course, found her so fascinating that he produced five portraits, six lithographs and a poster of her within a few months.

Stepping up

Djan Tatlian is about to become the first Russian defector to top the bill at Las Vegas. Tatlian, a singer, described as Moscow's Barry Manilow, was the Soviets' matinee idol and had sold 52 million records, before he escaped to the West in 1974.

Now he is relaunching his careers, has been booked by the Dunes Hotel to lead their floor-show, and is to be singing in English on the BBC's Russian service.

Checking facts

PHS promises that information he relays on the impending contest for the editorship of the *New Statesman* is a great deal less speculative than that magazine's own suggestion, in this week's issue, that Jeremy Thorpe is considering applying for the editorship of its SDP-Liberal rival, *The Democrat*. Respectfully PHS suggests the NS board looks for an editor who will persuade the staff to check the facts first.

Theoretically the Barbican Centre is once more accepting credit card bookings by telephone, but, PHS warns, the wife of one senior executive here spent the whole of Wednesday and most of yesterday morning trying to get through to the box office without success.

Prime mimic

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, is a great mimic, according to his son James, who is quoted in this week's *Woman's World*. James says his father imitated his predecessor, Dr Donald Coggan, to such good effect over the telephone that he fooled a fellow bishop who was playing truant from a Church of England conference. The lax prelate was packing his bags to hurry back before the impersonation was confessed.

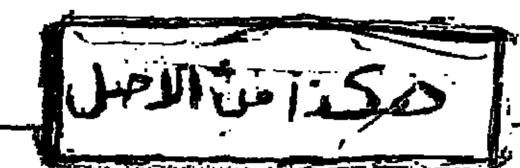
Diary Quiz

This week's news teasers:

1. Who tried to expose an indecency legally and was faced with a flop?
2. Who was diverted after being struck by lighting?
3. Where were 69 lords found a'leaping?
4. Which press baron is still mixed up with the harlots?

Answers on Monday.

PHS



THE TIMES

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LAW AND ORDER

One of the most cherished traditions of the police in Britain is that they are a force established to exercise power on behalf of the community, not over the community. It follows therefore that the police should be responsible to the community for the power that they exercise on its behalf. But there is another tradition that is no less important: operational independence for the police. This principle has recently been expressed most cogently by Lord Scarman in his report on the Brixton riots: "Neither politicians nor pressure-groups nor anyone else may tell the police what decision to take or what methods to employ, whether to enforce the law or not in particular case, or how to investigate a particular offence". This principle is necessary partly for efficient policing but even more to avoid what Lord Scarman described as "manipulation and abuse of the law, whether for political or private ends".

The practical question is how to reconcile these two requirements for good policing. Operational independence for the police is accepted in principle throughout the country, but the method of accountability varies between London and the rest of the country. The Metropolitan Police are responsible to the Home Secretary; elsewhere the police are accountable to police committees composed of local councillors and magistrates. It is this latter arrangement that has provoked the criticism of Mr James Anderton, the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester.

Mr Anderton fears that these committees are being used as instruments for securing control over the police by political extremists. He would wish to give magistrates at least half the membership of these committees, or better still abolish such committees in favour of non-political regional police boards, which would however have "a political input" and be responsible to Parliament.

Mr Anderton is right to fear political control over the police, from whatever quarter such a threat might come. But he has not suggested the right remedy. Satisfactory accountability needs to be both local and to a body the majority of whose members are elected representatives. This must mean through the agency of local government. Many people may agree with this in principle but be horrified at the capacity and apparent motives of some local councillors who are given the responsibility. Such critics have a point, but the way to seek safeguards against unjustifiable abuse is not to try to bypass local councillors. They are the people thrown up by the local democratic process, and if someone is to speak and act in a representational role on behalf of the community he needs to be elected.

The better course is to seek to define more precisely the limits to the jurisdiction of such committees. They have the right, subject to the approval of the Home Secretary, to appoint chief constables and before making such appointments they may reasonably question him on the strategy of policing that he would employ. It is the duty of a chief constable to report periodically to his police committee, who again may reasonably scrutinize his policy and express any anxieties on behalf of the local community, and a wise chief constable will weigh very carefully what is said. But this process must stop short of giving a chief constable instructions or implied instructions on operational matters. If a police committee is not prepared to observe such restraint then there remains in the background the discretion of the Home Secretary, whose approval would be required for any effective action to be taken against a chief constable. Provided that there is a general appreciation of the proper frontier between the power of the police committee and that of the police themselves, a determined chief constable is not without reasonable safeguards.

There remains the anomaly of the different arrangements for accountability for the Metropolitan Police. To some extent this is justified by the difference in responsibilities. The Metropolitan Police are more than a local force: they have special duties because they operate in the capital and they have some national tasks as well. They have a leadership role and they provide various forms of assistance for other forces. That is the reason why they need to be directly accountable to the Home Secretary.

But if they are more than a local force, they are nonetheless a local force. This is not provided for in present arrangements. Mr Callaghan, speaking as a former Home Secretary as well as Prime Minister, suggested this week that there should be a new authority on which local authorities would be represented as well as the Home Office. Ultimate responsibility for this force must remain with the Home Secretary, but it is desirable that the London boroughs be associated with process of accountability. If such a change were made there would be a reasonable structure of accountability throughout the country. It would then be a matter of applying the spirit as well as the letter.

SHAMROCK AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Whatever private reservations *the British Government may* have about President Reagan's attitude towards other of the world's trouble spots, they can have no complaint about his attitude towards Northern Ireland. Like his predecessors he is scrupulously correct. From a position of benevolent detachment he follows their lead in *declining to take a hand*, confining the policy content of any remarks he makes to matters which are explicitly agreed between the British and the Irish governments, expressing American interest in the economic regeneration *of the region*, and discouraging American citizens from contributing to funds destined to reach the Provisional IRA. During this presidency *also* the FBI is proceeding with evident success against illegal trade in arms to Ireland.

When Mr Haughey, newly restored to office, went to *Washington for St Patrick's* day (a voyage which says much about another "Irish dimension", taking the national leader out of the country on the national day) he may have expected Mr Reagan to be a bit more *forthcoming. Have not the* President's roots been dug up in Ballyporeen? But the Republican chief executive is more developed in Mr Reagan than the Tipperary man.

Mr Haughey, whose line is that nothing useful can be done about Northern Ireland except by the two governments in Dublin and London acting *severally or jointly*, said at his luncheon at the White House, "There is much to be done. And the first thing is that Britain be encouraged to seek more positively and persuade more actively a change in attitudes *and outlooks* which would pave the way for unity and so enable her final withdrawal *from Ireland to take place* with honour and dignity."

In other words Mr Reagan should twist Mrs Thatcher's arm till she twists the arm of Ulster unionists. Mr Haughey had the mortification of receiving a reply which sounds as if it was inspired if not actually scripted by Dr Garret FitzGerald. A solution could only be found, the President said, through "a process of reconciliation between the two traditions in Northern Ireland and between Britain *and Ireland*". He *laid* emphasis on continuing reduction in the level of violence as a condition for reconciliation. He repeated that it is the parties themselves that must compose their differences and it is not for the United States *to lay down the lines on* which they should do it. No mention of unification. Quite a good St Patrick's day for St George.

SOMEONE WHO STILL LOVES RUSSIANS

Anyone looking at the world through the Kremlin windows *must feel that* Russia is a very friendless country, unloved if not disliked almost everywhere; certainly more friendless than any other of the *world's larger countries*. Barely a handful of African and Middle Eastern leaders would fill the list of those who come to Moscow with *unfeigned enthusiasm. This is* the context in which Russia loves India: its non-aligment is not cool and detached but ready to see where and how the Russians are wronged by their enemies. Whatever emerges from Marshal Ustinov's visit, with *his formidable* retinue of thirty generals, it will confirm, as did *Mr Brezhnev's three* visits to New Delhi in the past decade — that the Russians feel *better after* a draught of Indian friendship.

Genuine warmth first entered *the relationship* when Mr Nehru was affronted by the cold war and tried to interpose *his country* as a mediator, insisting that in many ways the Russians were not the threat they *seemed in* Washington. Ever since, the rooted tendency in the Nehru entourage to see the *best in* the Russians has endured, even though the reality in the relationship has gone up and down. In the sixties, when China broke with the Russians and launched a punitive assault on the Indian army over the border, there were good reasons for mutual *propping* up. Mr Brezhnev saw in India the cornerstone of a collective security system for Asia which would contain China. Then the relationship sagged as India began to resent Russian naval strength in the Indian Ocean. But when East Pakistan *burst into* crisis and India feared a war with Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi was ready to sign a friendship treaty in Moscow.

With Pakistan's defeat and Bangladesh a friend to India, Russia was less necessary. Then President Nixon's visit to Peking aroused Russian anxieties, so Mr Brezhnev's stay in Delhi in 1973 was built up to comfort Russian opinion. Through the period of Mrs Gandhi's emergency, her electoral defeat, a less warm Mr Desai and then Mrs Gandhi's return to power in 1980, the visits were kept up more from the Russian side than from the Indian. In the last two years however, Afghanistan has brought disappointment to the Russians. India was willing to explain to others that Russia was not to be condemned outright; even in some small ways to be *excused; but the offence was* too undeniable for the leader of the world's non-aligned movement to do anything but distance herself in disap*proval. Having failed to win* the Indians then, the Russians may now look to India as the best mediator when opportunity offers.

It has been suggested that one motive of Marshal Ustinov's visit is to deflect some Indian military purchasing from Europe to Russia; or that he is anxious to assure the Indians that any forthcoming changes in the Soviet *leadership* will *not* lessen Moscow's attachment. For an India somewhat isolated by Islamic togetherness and cut off from East Asia by a very different outlook, Russian friendship fills a gap, too, since the only alternative would be a warm embrace from an American president landing in Delhi, and that has never seemed very likely. Hence India and Russia will stay fairly close. There are benefits in the relationship for both, and no cause for other countries to be disturbed. India's relations with Britain and other European countries are not reduced thereby.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Strengthening European element in Western defence

From Dr Robert McGeehan

Sir, The recent French suggestion for a stronger European role in *Western security matters* (leading article, March 16) is but the latest in a succession of Paris-inspired flirtations with the same seductive temptation (one recalls the 1950 Pleven Plan, the 1952 European Defence Com*munity agreement, the Fouchet* Plans of the early 1960s and, most analogous, the 1973 suggestions of Monsieur Michel Jobert who urged use of Western European Union as the vehicle for an enhanced political-military *role for an independent Europe*).

Without pausing on the debatable validity of "Europe" as a collective ideal, or disagreeing with your conclusion that the dramatic improvement of European conventional forces could be desirable both *to redress the* East-West military imbalance and *to reduce* excessive dependence on the United States, it seems obvious that such an enormously expensive undertaking in a time of recession could not be the product of logic or common sense alone.

For Europe to break out of its docile lethargy in the security sector via the creation of military capabilities powerful enough to *make her a credible political* force, either the Russians would have to be perceived as a much more threatening adversary, or European frustration with the United States would have to be so intense as to be anti-American.

Recent evidence does not suggest that Moscow's antics are as ominously *seen in Bonn*, Paris or perhaps even London as in *Washington, and there is virtu*ally no European equivalent to the Reagan Administration's emotional preoccupation with the global Soviet menace.

Yet the other catalytic agent which might propel Europe towards more *independence* is filled with dangers more disturb*ing than* recent Russian behaviour. European frustrations, if acted upon, could all too easily produce American disillusionment, and the withdrawal of American forces or a further shredding of the already-tattered *nuclear umbrella*.

I share the belief that if "Europe" is ever created it will be in partial opposition to, not alliance with, the United States. For precisely this reason sensitive Europeans no less than sensible *Americans* should adamantly oppose any move towards action stations against the wrong adversary.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT McGEEHAN,
School of International Relations,
University of Southern California,
United Kingdom Program,
9 St James's Square, SW1.
March 16.

From Lord Gladwyn

Sir, All the chances are that Trident will be cancelled in what is probably less than two years' time when we shall no doubt settle for something much less *expensive, if indeed we feel* — on the assumption that the USA is still with us — that we want a nuclear "deterrent" at *all*. There remains, however, the vital necessity for retaining a "credible" European defensive system, i.e. a system which would make it *clear that the Soviet Union would* be unlikely to prevail in any non-nuclear European war.

Pace Mr Reagan, the Russians are quite unlikely to take the initiative in using or even threatening nuclear weapons. *What would they gain from a* devastated Europe? What risks of nuclear retaliation in Russia itself would they run? But the West, having now lost what the experts call "escalatory control", cannot make first use of a nuclear weapon either. *That is* why the doctrine of "flexible response" is becoming more and more impracticable and out-of-date. So we must at all costs be able — and be seen to be able — to prevent the Russians from *arriving on the Weser* within a couple of days, or the Rhine *within* a week.

Can this be done? Of course it can. *The first thing is for the* European Ministers of Defence — or such of them as are prepared to do so — to meet regularly in some place, no matter where, to supervise and direct the efforts of officials to produce in com*mon and en masse* the necessary anti-tank and anti-aircraft wea*pons and devices of the latest* type: to organise the hardening of airfields and the dispersal of dumps: to plan an extension of anti-submarine defences; and (above all, perhaps) to get busy with the formation of Home Guards to protect our cities and installations, more especially in *Germany* and the UK, against airborne assaults.

I repeat, it really doesn't matter where or under what auspices such ministerial activity takes place. It could (preferably) be within the general framework of the European Council, as suggested in the Colombo-Genscher plan. It could be in a revised Western European Union (*which, however, really* ought to be merged with the EEC and the European Parliament). It should certainly make use of the so-called "Independent European Programme Group" in Rome (which ought to take over from *the Eurogroup in* Brussels). In any event it must include the French.

For over ten years now intelligent voices have been heard in Strasbourg and Brussels advocating some such action as *this. With your powerful support*, perhaps they will at length prevail.

Yours truly,
GLADWYN,
House of Lords.
March 16.

From Sir Bernard Burrows

Sir, There is much to agree with in your leader on European *defence* (March 16), especially the objective of improving the European conventional defence effort. This could only be done without unacceptable increase of cost if the Europeans were prepared to agree to more *pooling* and *harmonization of* armed forces and their equipment.

As regards the *institutional* framework, you overlook some of the problems of reviving Western European Union, and you fail to mention another, perhaps more *promising, recent initiative.* The Assembly of Western European Union has some interesting debates on European defence matters, but it is not a directly elected body and, more important, nobody seems to pay much attention to what it says.

The inter-governmental element of WEU has been almost totally *inactive. The main part of its* defence responsibilities and organisation were long ago transferred to Nato, and an entirely new structure would have to be created if it were to attempt to resume this activity. Secondly, the WEU treaty contains a more stringent commitment to mutual *military support* than does the Nato treaty. It is unrealistic to suppose that Denmark and Greece would be willing to undertake such a new commitment.

You do not mention the *Genscher-Colombo* proposals for a new European Act which *would, among other things,* authorize the existing European Council (the heads of government of the countries of the European Community) to extend the scope of political cooperation with two objects: to take common action in the field of *foreign* policy so that Europe's role in the world can be *more commensurate with its* economic and political importance; and to concert on questions of security policy in order to safeguard European independence and protect vital European interests.

This plan had the advantage of building on what is there, namely *the European Council and* existing machinery of political cooperation for the harmonization of foreign policy, which already deals with certain security questions, such as the preparation of European views for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. It is a logical *extension* to add defence policy to foreign policy. The two are essentially inseparable.

If on the contrary we had defence policy being dealt with in *WEU and foreign policy in the* Community there would be ample opportunity for confusion. Another advantage of the Genscher-Colombo plan is that the activities conducted under it would be subject to the scrutiny *of the directly elected European* Parliament.

There will always be anomalies of membership, whatever body is chosen. The advantage of the European Council and the political cooperation machinery is that they are formally outside the provisions of the Treaty of Rome and *so are capable of flexible* operation. If Ireland did not wish to participate in a discussion or activity under these structures it could simply abstain from doing so, without causing an institutional crisis.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD BURROWS,
Steep Farm,
Petersfield,
Hampshire.
March 16.

Unhappiness of the clergy

From the Bishop of Oxford

Sir, Since your correspondent was kind enough to mention my part in the debate in *the General* Synod on this subject ("Unhappy in their unhappiness", February 22) *perhaps* you will permit me to say that in my experience of two dioceses there are *many* clergy of the Church of England who are far from unhappy.

Under pressures of many kind, yes — but they have a strong *grasp of* their calling, they enjoy great support and friendship from their congregations, and they recognize that the freedom, diversity, and human contact of their job afford them a rare privilege in the contemporary world, which is some compensation for the thinness of its financial rewards. *It seems to me* a slur on the clergy and their wives to imply that the majority of them are full of complaints, spoken or unspoken.

Where the unhappiness exists, however, it is altogether too *facile* (and unfair) to blame it upon unsuitable training in theological colleges. Is *there not* a deeper cause, and does it not lie in the tension *between* the Christian Gospel and the mental climate of our society?

According to the latter, there is nothing worse that can happen to a person than that he should suffer in some way. If he suffers, *his rights are somehow* being infringed, and very likely there is some "authority" *to be blamed*: the Government, church leaders, the Synod, and so forth.

The Gospel speaks in quite different terms — terms difficult and uncongenial for modern British people to hear — about *suffering and its* part in the redemption of the world. It is no wonder that those whose *calling* is to proclaim the Cross, but who remain citizens of the contemporary world, find themselves caught in a painful tug-of-war. "To the Greeks foolishness" — yes, and never more than today.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK OXON:
Bishop's House,
27 Linton Road, Oxford.
March 2.

The Pope's visit

From Mr S. E. MacKenzie

Sir, It strikes me as unfortunate that, in the run-up to Pope John Paul's visit, Clifford Longley should choose to labour differences of a sort that are inevitable *in the present divided state of* Christianty: as when (March 8) he deplores the power enjoyed by successive Popes as being allegedly "absolute".

True, for the orthodox Roman Catholic, that power is considerable. As Vatican II has put it in one place (*Lumen gentium*, 22), "*In virtue of his office as Vicar* of Christ and Pastor of the whole Church, the Roman Pontiff possesses full, supreme, universal power over the Church, and he is always able to exercise it without impediment."

Even so he is unable to alter the constitution of the Church, *and his power of definition is* limited by a multitude of previous definitions due to his predecessors, to the councils and to the ordinary exercise of the Church's magisterium through the pastors united to the Holy See. He is by no means the "absolute monarch" Mr Longley *frightens us with.*

More to our joint purpose, I believe, *is to follow* the inspiring lead given by Dr Runcie in placing the ecumenical importance of the visit on the beliefs and sentiments that unite us, leaving the differences to recede in due time. Surely the salient *point about the forthcoming* get-together is that there has never been anything like it before.

Yours, etc,
S. E. MACKENZIE,
Trefusis,
Cavendish Road,
Weybridge.
March 8.

Violence in Namibia

From Sir Trevor Lloyd-Hughes

Sir, The Bishop of Manchester no *doubt preaches well. He should* confine himself to the pulpit and leave politics — especially in Namibia — to those who have more than a passing knowledge of that complex country.

In his letter of March 10, he mentioned the recent visit to Namibia by four members of the *British Council of Churches* and their "impression of the widespread popular *backing for* SWAPO".

I have just returned from an intensive 10-day investigative visit to Namibia, and my findings do not coincide with those of Stanley Booth-Clibborn.

He mentions Peter Kalangula, who is my friend and has been my guest in *London*. Peter certainly has not, as the Bishop *of Manchester claims, taken his* party with him on resigning from the ruling Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA).

Several influential leaders from Mr Kalangula's Owambo region have strongly condemned his walk-out. They include Mr Tara Imbili, Owambo member of the *Council of Ministers*, and Pastor Cornelius Ndjoba, a previous president of the *DTA and a well-*respected, traditional Owambo leader. Strong local support for the DTA — and against Peter Kalangula — has also been *expressed*.

Truth is being murdered in *Namibia — so are ordinary*, innocent people — with the naive connivance of the Church, who are not experts in sifting truth from propaganda.

During my stay in Namibia last week, five SWAPO gunmen lined up 11 innocent civilians against a wall at a krall in Oshikutu in the north of the country. The *execution squad* — using Russian machine guns — killed eight and wounded two people. One escaped unhurt.

These terrorists stole 300 rand in cash and several portable radios before opening fire.

How can such behaviour fail to be condemned, loudly and clearly, by church leaders?

SWAPO are free to partake in the normal political and democratic *processes* inside *Namibia* — provided they eschew violence. Why do not the churches encourage *them to* join in peaceful debate? No one should need guns, mines and murder to convince others that they have a valid political argument.

Yours sincerely,
TREVOR LLOYD-HUGHES,
Lloyd-Hughes Associates Limited,
66/70 Borough High Street, SE1.
March 16.

Sea bed rights

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, The United States is not *beyond reproach in its record* over the prolonged negotiations on *deep sea bed mining at the* United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea — but not for the reasons that are stated by Dr Buzan and his University of Warwick colleagues (March 17). The Carter administration, unlike *some* other western nations, failed to see the grave dangers of *the proposals that were being put* forward at the Law of the Sea Conference. *These would entail* setting up a giant quango under the International Sea Bed Authority which would have absolute and exclusive control over the resources of the sea bed of the deep oceans.

The terms on which mining contracts would be granted would force *the industrialist to give* away his secrets to competitors and to train competitors *in* the use of them against him. The construction and voting arrangements for the Assembly and Council would be biased against the industrial nations; voting for the 36 members of the *Council* is quite deliberately preconditioned in favour of the Eastern (Socialist) European Region and the developing countries.

Fortunately the Reagan administration has woken up to the *extreme dangers of the draft* convention. The United States recognizes that there is a need for a convention, as does Britain. We should certainly support the United States in rejecting the undesirable features that I have mentioned.

It would be against the inter*ests of the developing nations* for the United States to go it alone. *That is why it is important* that the Law of the Sea Conference should produce agreed proposals that encourage rather than deter the development of deep sea bed mineral resources and avoid creating a monopoly of these resources by the *so-called* Enterprise.

Yours faithfully.
MICHAEL IVENS,
Director, Aims of Industry,
40 Doughty Street, WC1.
March 18.

Islamic courts

From Mr Hushang Mehr-Ayin

Sir, Viewing with great concern the fact that the accused assassins of President Sadat were tried "*in complete secrecy and* denied the opportunity to defend themselves fully and freely in accordance with the rules of the law and dictates of justice," Mr Ahmed Ben Bella, the well known Algerian revolutionary leader, *appeals to President Mubarak of* Egypt to revoke the findings of the court and order fresh trials in an open civil court (*The Times*, March 10).

I do not *intend to confirm or* otherwise challenge Mr Ben Bella's views on the conduct of the Cairo trials. However, since Mr Ben Bella makes his alle*gations in his capacity* as the chairman of the International Islamic Commission for Human Rights, I cannot help wondering why his commission has not made any *public statements on* the conduct of the *so-called* Islamic courts in Iran in which the unfortunate accused are tried not only in complete secrecy but are denied access to defence lawyers and even the opportunity to challenge the views of the judges let alone the facts presented by them.

In the *Islamic* revolutionary courts of Iran the judges will hear only those witnesses who come forward to speak against the accused and the evidence presented as fact *is often* the opinion of the judges or witnesses. And all this is done in the name of Islamic justice which, *incidentally*, does *not accept* jurisdiction of civil courts. As an exponent of Islamic values Mr Ben Bella might do well by making public his views on the Ayatollah's faith in the dictates of justice.

Yours faithfully,
H. MEHR-AYIN,
149 Moat House Drive,
Crewe,
Cheshire.
March 11.

Gas price rises

From Mr T. D. Kelly

Sir, If gas consumers are to be no better served than it appears to be within the wit of their present chairman to serve them, then surely a satisfying if irrelevant economy could be effected by sacking her.

Domestic gas prices have *risen* in the West Midlands Gas Board *area* by 28 *per* cent in the last year and by 68 per cent in the last two years. To excuse lack of *opposition* to this as *sacrificing* long-term stability to short-term popularity is bordering on what might reasonably be described as woeful illogicality.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
T. D. KELLY,
Castle Lane House,
Castle Lane,
Warwick.
March 9.

Iran's heritage

From Mr Parviz C. Radji

Sir, The unique and priceless works of art that comprise the *crown jewels of Iran (your article* of March 9) are not the property *of the ayatollahs to do with as* they wish. They form, and will always remain, part of the national heritage of the Persian people, a fact that no legislation, Islamic or otherwise, can in any way alter.

Those who wish to participate in what is tantamount to a pillage *of Iran's historic patrimony* should bear in mind that in the eyes of Iran's post-Khomeini government — and there will be one sooner than many suppose — they would knowingly have dealt in stolen property.

Yours faithfully,
PARVIZ C. RADJI,
20 Holland Park Road, W14.
March 10.

Strikingly familiar

From Mr Arthur Jackson

Sir, I was interested in your Foreign Staff's report (March 17) on the most welcome visit to Britain of Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman, when, quoting the Civil Aviation Authority, its spokes*man said,* "Lightning strikes are not all that infrequent . . ."

The spokesman was referring *to a meteorological phenomenon* but, on my many trips abroad, I *have frequently* observed the other variety at Heathrow's terminals 1, 2 and 3.

Yours very truly,
ARTHUR JACKSON,
5 Greenslade Road,
Walsall,
West Midlands.
March 17.

Bir Zeit University

From Mr David Astor and others

Sir, We wish to draw attention to the plight of Arab students in *Israeli occupied* territory whose human right to education is effectively denied by Israeli authority, until recently in uniform, now in civilian dress.

All Arab students suffer harassment, but the 2,000 who atend the University of Bir Zeit *seem* to be singled out for special attention. Closed last November for two *months* and reopened in January, Bir Zeit has now been closed for a further two months on what are termed "security" grounds.

Tactics like this, coupled with frequent and arbitrary exercise of powers to accept or reject the appointments of lecturers, or to ban the *importation* of books, make it close to impossible to maintain satisfactory academic standards, and students whose final examiations must be taken this summer are penalized for no fault of their own.

We would *like to apeal to all* who care for academic freedom to add their protests to those of Jewish Isralis, academics and others, who *have braved the tear* gas and upheld the the honour of Israel by demonstrating in solidarity with the University of Bir Zeit.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID ASTOR,
KENNETH CRAGG,
W K HAYMAN,
ELIZABETH MONROE,
DIANA RICHMOND,
J B RICHMOND,
JOHN A T ROBINSON,

As from: Trinity College,
Cambridge.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 18: The Sultan of Oman visited Bovington Camp, Dorset this morning and was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of Dorset (Colonel Sir Joseph Weld) and the Commander, Royal Armoured Corps Centre (Brigadier Simon Cooper). His Majesty was later entertained at luncheon by the Commandant, Royal Armoured Corps Centre in the Officers' Mess of the Royal Armoured Corps Gunnery School, Lulworth.

The Sultan of Oman Travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

His Excellency Archbishop Bruno Bernard Heim was received in audience by The Queen and presented his Letters of Credence as Apostolic Pro-Nuncio from the Holy See to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Member of the Nunciature, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsignor Mario Oliveri (Counsellor).

Sir Michael Palliser (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign And Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr A C D S MacRae was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Ndjamena.

Mrs MacRae had the honour of being received by The Queen.

His Excellency Sayed Amir El-Sawi and Madame El-Sawi were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Democratic Republic of Sudan to the Court of St James's.

The Queen this afternoon opened St Lukes's Leisure Centre for Pensioners at 90, Central Street, London, EC1.

Having been received upon arrival by the Mayor of Islington (Councillor Edna Browning) and the Chairman of the St Luke's Parochial Trust (Councillor Christie Payne), Her Majesty toured the Centre, unveiled a commemorative plaque and afterwards attended a Concert given by the students of the Arts Educational School.

Lady Susan Hussey, Mr Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant-Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson were in attendance.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips and Captain Mark Phillips, were entertained at a Banquet this evening by The Sultan of Oman at Claridge's.

The Duchess of Grafton and Sir William Heseltine were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Captain-General of the Royal Marines, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Major-General J C Hardy upon assuming the appointment of Chief of Staff Royal Marines.

His Royal Highness then received Major-General M C L Wilkins upon his relinquishing the appointment of Chief of Staff Royal Marines and upon his appointment as Major-General Royal Marines Commando Forces, and Major-General J J Moore upon relinquishing his appointment as Major-General Royal Marines Commando Forces.

The Duke of Edinburgh chaired the selection panel for The Duke of Edinburgh's Designer's Prize at the Design Centre, Haymarket.

His Royal Highness, Senior Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering, this afternoon chaired the Fellowship's Annual General Meeting at St James's Palace.

Mr Richard Davies was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Colonel Gerard Leigh at the Funeral of Major-General Claude Pert which was held at the Royal Chapel, Windsor Great Park today.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Watt.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 18: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was entertained at a Banquet this evening by The Sultan of Oman at Claridge's.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 18: The Duke of Gloucester, President, The Royal Agricultural Society of England, this morning presented the National Pig Awards at the Butchers' Hall, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

In the evening The Duke and Duchess Of Gloucester were entertained at a Banquet given by The Sultan of Oman at Claridge's.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 18: The Duke and Duchess of Kent were entertained at a Banquet this evening by The Sultan of Oman at Claridge's.

The Prince of Wales, president of the Mary Rose Trust, will dive on the site of the Mary Rose and subsequently attend a reception at the Guildhall, Portsmouth, on April 28.

Princess Anne will attend the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs' golden jubilee convention ball in Blackpool on April 30.

The Prince of Wales, president of the Prince's Trust, will attend a concert given by Status Quo in aid of the trust at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on May 14.

A memorial service for Sir Geoffrey Shakerley will be held at St David's, Morton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, today at 2.30.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. Dyer and Miss J. Larcom
The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Dyer, of Clare House, Great Braxted, Essex, and Julia, daughter of Sir Christopher and Lady Larcom, of Butlers, Hatfield Peverel, Essex.

Mr T. C. Osborn-Jones and Miss A. Gordon-Duff-Pennington
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of the Rev A. and Mrs Osborn-Jones, 24 Ainsworth Avenue, Ovingdean, Brighton, and Anthea, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. T. Gordon-Duff-Pennington, Kirkland, Tynron, Dumfriesshire.

Mr R. A. Otter and Fraulein A. Vollmer
The engagement is announced between Robert Anthony, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robin Otter, of The Grange, Kemerton, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, and Antoinette elder daughter of Herr Karl-Heinz Vollmer, of Mohneseeufer, 1A Vollinghausen, W. Germany, and Frau Agnes Vollmer, of Uhlandweg 6, 4772 Bad Sassendorf, W. Germany.

Dr R. Salmon and Dr A. Mahaffey
The engagement is announced between Ralph, elder son of Mr and Mrs L. Salmon, of Roseville, Sydney, and Ann, elder daughter of the late Mr Leo Mahaffey and of Mrs M. Mahaffey of Newmarket, Suffolk.

Mr R. N. ff. Sorrell and Miss A. G. Smith
The engagement is announced between Robin younger son of Mr and Mrs A. D. M. Sorrell, of Clunes House, Toot Hill, Essex, and Andrea, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Q. Smith, of The Corners, 23, Finch Lane, Bushey, Hertfordshire.

Mr W. H. T. Vanderburgh and Miss K. S. E. Woollcombe
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mrs C. Vanderburgh, of Mount Brydges, and Mr T. Vanderburgh, of Delaware, Ontario, Canada, and Katharine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Rupert Woollcombe, of Berryfield, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire.

Marriage

Mr J. Rowlands and Miss L. J. Lowe
The marriage took place in London on February 5 between Mr John Kendall Rowlands and Miss Lorna Jane Lowe.

High sheriffs

The following have been appointed high sheriffs for 1982:

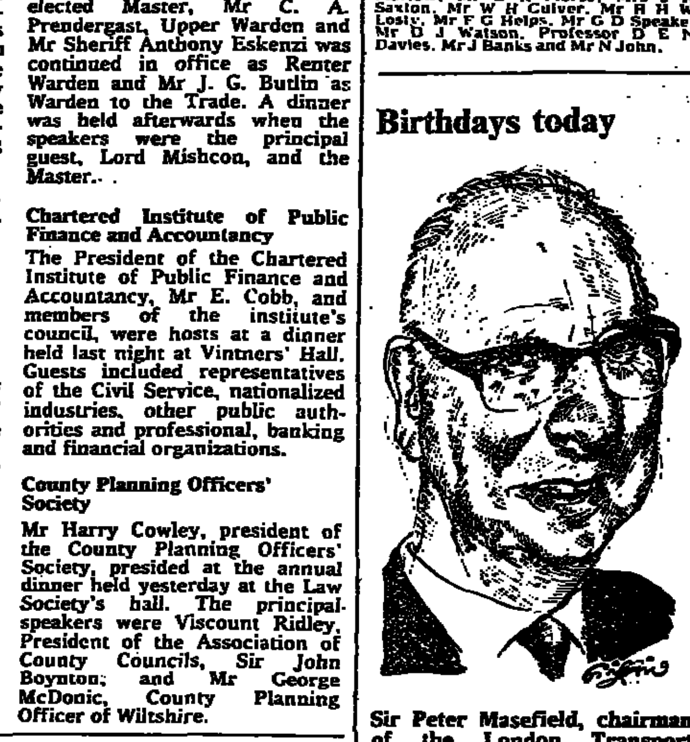
Avon: P D Smith, Flax Bourton, Bristol; Bedfordshire: J Bristow, Biddenham, Bedford; Berkshire: Sir David Hill-Wood, Reading; Buckinghamshire: G N Mobbs, Lacey Green, Aylesbury; Cambridgeshire: D O A Morbey, Ely; Cheshire: R J Posnett, Tiresford, Tarporley; Cleveland: C E Shopland, Marton, Middlesbrough; Cumbria: W J M Chaplin, Ulverston; Derbyshire: G Meynell, Kirk Langley, Derby; Devon: R M Huxtable, Barnstaple.

Dorset: D S Scott, Bournemouth; Durham: C C Bartram, Heighington Village, Newton Aycliffe; East Sussex: Hon. Oliver St. Aubyn, Barcombe, near Lewes; Essex: Colonel R B Gosling, Margaretting; Gloucestershire: R J G Berkeley, Berkeley; Greater London: S Birch, Regent's Park, London; Hampshire: Captain P A Bence-Trower, West Meon, near Petersfield; Hereford and Worcester: Lieutenant-Commander J A B Thomson, Worcester; Hertfordshire: J C McMullen, Westmill, Buntingford; Humberside: R L Holtby, Skirlaugh, Hull; Isle of Wight: W T Cooper, Fishbourne, Ryde; Kent: Captain R V J Evans, Westerham; Leicestershire: Wing Commander J H Smith-Carington, Ashby Folville, near Melton Mowbray; Lincolnshire: P E F Heneage, Lincoln; Norfolk: R G L Taylor, Starston, Harleston; Northamptonshire: H G de Brooke, Great Oakley, near Corby; Northumberland: J C R Trevelyan, Morpeth.

North Yorkshire: Sir William M J Worsley, Bt., York; Nottinghamshire: R Brackenbury, Holme Pierrepont; Oxfordshire: T W Smith, Hinton Waldrist, Faringdon; Shropshire: J C Yeoward, Clun; Somerset: P G H Speke, Ilminster; South Yorkshire: Lieut-Colonel D J K German, Stafford; Suffolk: R H Paul, Woodbridge; Surrey: J P M H Evelyn, Abinger Common, near Dorking; Tyne and Wear: R H Chapman, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne; Warwickshire: M Dunne, Kineton; West Midlands: A F Birtles, Wootton Wawen, Solihull; West Sussex: P Langmead, Lyminster, Littlehampton; West Yorkshire: D Fearnley, Hopton, Mirfield; Wiltshire: S G Davenport, Codford St Mary, Warminster.

Wales
Clwyd: Lieut-Colonel A D B Brooks, Malpas, Cheshire; Dyfed: H H Roberts, Synod, Llandysul; Gwent: C S Inglefield, Raglan; Gwynedd: R E M Rees, Tywyn; Mid-Glamorgan: W K Eynon, Newton, Porthcawl; Powys: P F Lowe, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan; South Glamorgan: I D Owen, Penarth; West Glamorgan: A G Chilcott, Mumbles, Swansea.

Tony Weaver



Archbishop Bruno Heim, Apostolic Pro-Nuncio after visiting Buckingham Palace yesterday to present his credentials to the Queen. He is the Pope's first representative in London with full ambassadorial status.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Masumi Esaki, special envoy of the President of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan.

Launderers' Company
The Launderers' Company held a court luncheon yesterday at Glaziers' Hall in connexion with the founding of Launderers' Hall. The Master, Mr E. Stanley Hale, presided, assisted by the Wardens, Mr R. L. Seaman, Mr S. Laurie-Walker and Mr W. J. Marle. Sir Kenneth Cork also spoke. The guests included Sir Kingsley Collett, Sir Hugh Wontner, Alderman David Rowe-Ham and the Very Rev Harold E. Frankham.

Society of Company and Commercial Accountants
Sir Donald MacDougall, Chief Economic Adviser to the Confederation of British Industry, was the guest speaker at a luncheon given at the Dyers' Hall, Dowgate Hill, London EC4 yesterday by Mr D E Evans, President of the Society of Company and Commercial Accountants. Among those present were:
Mr F J Bergin, Mr T S T Cookson, Mr G C Smith, members of council; Mr J H Tresman, executive director, and Mrs J G Slade, education secretary; Mr J L Barrons, Mr N Brodrick, Mr P J Coen, Mr J P Dempster, Mr J M Gorst, Mr J Hill, Mr J C L Kenchington, Mr A Lambie, Mr A Owen, Mr J A Spall and Mr H H Walmsley.

Dinners

Sultan of Oman
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the Sultan of Oman at Claridge's hotel last night. Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips, Princess Margaret Countess of Snowdon, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Kent attended. Others present included:
Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, CH, the Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher, members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Duke and Duchess of Grafton, Lord and Lady Maclean, Lord and Lady Carrington, Baroness Phillips, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster, Sir Harold Wilson, MP, and Lady Wilson, Mr James Callaghan, MP and Mrs Callaghan, the Hon Douglas Hurd, MP, Sir Philip and Lady Moore, Mr Julian Amery, MP, and Mrs Amery, the Hon Mary Hogg, the Hon David Douglas-Home, Lieutenant-General Sir John and Lady Richards, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, Sir Geoffrey Arthur, Sir Donald and Lady Hawley, Sir Tom Hickinbotham, Sir Richard and Lady Beaumont, Sir David and Lady McNee, Sir Michael and Lady Palliser, Lieutenant-Colonel George West, Mr and Mrs Roger du Boulay, Mr and Mrs E F Given, Brigadier and Mrs P Thwaites, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs F C L Chauncy, Mr and Mrs Christopher Reeves, Mr and Mrs Peter Mason, Mr and Mrs John Moberly and Mr and Mrs David Miers.

Manchester and District Medico-Legal Society
The Manchester and District Medico-Legal Society held its annual dinner at Manchester University yesterday. Mr David Gandy presided, accompanied by Mrs Gandy and the other speakers were Mrs Justice Heilbron and Dr Sydney Levine.

Pattenmakers' Company
At a court meeting of the Pattenmakers' Company held yesterday at Tallow Chandlers' Hall Mr Edgar Astaire was elected Master, Mr C. A. Prendergast, Upper Warden and Mr Sheriff Anthony Eskenzi was continued in office as Renter Warden and Mr J. G. Butlin as Warden to the Trade. A dinner was held afterwards when the speakers were the principal guest, Lord Mishcon, and the Master.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
The President of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Mr E. Cobb, and members of the institute's council, were hosts at a dinner held last night at Vintners' Hall. Guests included representatives of the Civil Service, nationalized industries, other public authorities and professional, banking and financial organizations.

County Planning Officers' Society
Mr Harry Cowley, president of the County Planning Officers' Society, presided at the annual dinner held yesterday at the Law Society's hall. The principal speakers were Viscount Ridley, President of the Association of County Councils, Sir John Boynton; and Mr George McDonic, County Planning Officer of Wiltshire.

Memorial service

Sir Eric Eastwood
A memorial service for Sir Eric Eastwood was held in the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy yesterday. Canon Edwyn Young officiated. Sir Francis Tombs, president of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, read the lesson and Dr F. E. Jones gave an address. Among those present were:

Lady Eastwood (widow), Mr Martin Eastwood (son), Mr E Eastwood (brother), Mr and Mrs J N Eastwood, Viscount Caldecote, Vice-Admiral Sir Philip Watson (chairman, Marconi Radar Systems), Sir Robert Cockburn, Vice-Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, Sir Albert Mumford, Sir Andrew Huxley (president, Royal Society), Mr C T Melling, Mr I L Davies, Mr Ken Taylor, Dr H H Atkinson and Dr J W King (Science and Engineering Research Council), Dr P E Trier, Professor E A Ash, Mr A Smart, Mr T B McCrirrick, Mr J Chaplin (representing the chairman and technical director, General Electric Company), Mr G Beck (Royal Institution of Navigation), Dr Kenneth Spring (British Railways Board), Miss Ursula Loynes, Mrs M Barr, Mr John Bray, Mrs Pauline Green, Mr H Granville-Brown, Mr Roy Simons, Mr A Cardani, Mr J H Marlow, Mr D R Morse, Mrs J A Saxton, Mr W H Culver, Mr H H W Losty, Mr F G Helps, Mr G D Speake, Mr D J Watson, Professor D E N Davies, Mr J Banks and Mr N John.

Birthdays today

Sir Peter Masefield, chairman of the London Transport Executive, who is 68.

The Rev Sir Herbert Andrew, 72; Lord Baker, 81; Lady Georgina Coleridge, 66; Lord Glenkinglas, 69; The Right Rev A R Gordon, 55; Mr B Hildrew, 62; Miss Elizabeth Maconchy, 75; Mr Philip Mason, 76; General Sir Hubert Reay, 57; Mr Kenneth Robinson, 71; Sir Leonard Scopes, 70; Mr Norman Yardley, 67.

Memorial fund appeal

An appeal is being launched to fund a memorial to the late Sir Norman Stronge, the former Speaker of the Northern Ireland parliament murdered by the Provisional IRA last January, to be placed in the parliament buildings at Stormont.

The fund is being organized by Sir John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP for Epping Forest, Mr James Molyneaux, leader of the Official Ulster Unionists, Sir Nigel Fisher, Conservative MP for Kingston upon Thames, Surbiton, Lord Moyola, a former Prime Minister of Northern Ireland. Donations should be sent to Lord Moyola, Moyola Park, Castledawson, Magherafelt, co. Derry.

Fellowship of Engineering

The Duke of Edinburgh, senior fellow, was in the chair at the annual general meeting of the Fellowship of Engineering held at St Jame's Palace on March 18. Viscount Caldecote, president, reported upon the activities of the fellowship during the past year. Other business conducted included the adoption of the accounts, and the election of new fellows and officers and members of the council for the ensuing year.

The Floral Luncheon

The Floral Luncheon will be held on Wednesday May 12 at the Park Lane Hotel to raise funds for the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops. The president is Lord Astor of Hever and the chairman is the Marchioness of Ailesbury.

Downe House School

Open Scholarships 1982
The Olive Willis Scholarship for under 14 candidates. No Scholarship awarded. Exhibitions awarded to:
Alice King-Farlow (Chad Vale Junior School, Edgbaston & Downe House); Miranda Maxwell-Hyslop (Manor House, Great Durnford & Downe House); Sara Watson (Ashdown House).
The Downe House Scholarship for under 12 candidates:
Helen Moyes (Sarum Hall).
Music Exhibitions have been awarded to:
Anna Hely-Hutchinson (Sutton Park, Dublin & Downe House); Jane Johnson (The Prebendal School).

Marlborough College

The following Awards have been made:
Sixth-form entrance scholarships: Piers Alder, Reading School, Reading; Kate Jones, Dr Challoner's High School, Amersham; Olivia MacDonald, Wycombe Abbey School, High Wycombe; Diarmuid MacDougall, Ratcliffe College, Leicester.
Music scholarships: Edwin Datson, Bradon Forest School, Purton, Swindon; Dorian Hendrie, St John's College School, Cambridge; Richard Osmond, University College School (Junior Branch), London.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net before tax paid):
Badgett, Dr William Keith, of Ham, Surrey £221,754
Clark, Aimee, of London £278,956
Cross, Miss Rosamond Mary of Hazelbury Bryan, Dorset £474,265
Dobell, Nora May, of Heswall, Merseyside £1,426,777
Hext, Major David Yeatman, of Exeter £931,412

Savoy Hotel

The Savoy Hotel, of London, announce a two-week season of cabaret on the restaurant's rising floor. From Monday, May 10, 1982 to Saturday, May 22, Miss Anita Harris and her musicians will entertain at 11.30 pm. There will be dancing to two bands from 9.00 pm and a special dinner will be served. Reservations can be made at the Savoy Hotel from Mr Antonio, restaurant manager, or by telephoning 01-836 4343 extention 2302.

Royal Grammar School, Guildford

The following awards are announced:
King's scholarships: Paul J W Cluley, RGS and Watchetts Middle School; Timothy Norman, Papplewick.
Scholarships: Andrew T Griffiths, Cranmore; A Frazer Jarvis, RGS and Aldro; James Kariuki, RGS and Cranleigh Middle School; Gareth A Rogers, Eastwick Middle School.
Music scholarship: James D Arbuckle, Lanesborough.
Music exhibition: Edward G B Hayter, Woodcote House.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Major Victor Le Fanu to be Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Commons in the place of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Peter Thorne, who retires on August 20
Mr Alan Grey to be Ambassador to Gabon in succession to Mr Terence Grady.
Lord Jellicoe to be chairman of the Medical Research Council, in succession to Lord Shepherd.
Mr Michael Church, Mrs Penelope Fitzgerald and Miss Philippa Pearce to be members of the Arts Council's literature advisory panel.

The Royal Society

The following have been elected fellows of the Royal Society:

Dr U W Arndt; Professor R J Baxter; Professor M V Berry; Professor J D Birchall; Professor A D Bradshaw; Dr D McG Brown; Dr L M Brown; Sir Henry Chilver; Professor B C Clark; Professor W M Cowan; Professor A W Cuthbert; Dr J T Finch; Professor H E Hall; Professor M Hart; Dr E J Hewitt; Professor C A R Hoare; Professor R F Hudson; Professor K L Johnson; Professor W Johnson; Professor P J Lachmann; Dr R Lainson; Dr M F Land; Professor P J Lawrenson; Professor W Levick; Professor S F Mason; Dr Noreen Murray; Sir Gustav Nossal; Professor R H Ottewill; Dr W J Peacock; Professor P J E Peebles; Mr P Rainger; Professor C N R Rao; Dr L E J Roberts; Professor G S Rushbrooke; Professor J G Sclater; Dr G B Segal; Professor D R Trentham; Professor J S Turner; Professor T G Tutin; Professor J C Waterlow.

Sandhurst commissions

Princess Anne was the inspecting officer at the Final Parade of the 19th Direct Entry Graduate Course at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst on March 12:

The following student officers have successfully completed the course and their commissions have been confirmed in the Regiment of Corps shown:

G B Alliott, COLDM GDS; P H G Alun-Jones, WFR; P B Ayo, RAEC; P F Baillie, RMP; J R Bashford, RA; J A S Bernard, RHG/D; R J Brayshaw, RRW; A J Bruce, REME; M P Campbell-Lamerton, SG; M R Carson, RAEC; R H B Claessens, RCT; H M Clutterbuck, COLDM GDS; T T C Collins, R SIGNALS; J R Cowgill, QLR; P G Cox, RCT; W A H Crewdson, RH; A D Dalrymple, SG; A L Davies, RCT; J A Davis, RAEC; S A Dawson, RRF; R A Donaldson, RE; C Douglas, RAEC; G Draper, RAEC; F D F Drury, DERR; S C J Ellis, LG; T M Elvin, RE; D M Evans, RAEC; G R Evans, RE; P C E Farquhar, RH; A H J Fraser, SG; S M Gleed, RAEC; C G Goodeve-Ballard, RA; A R Gregory, RA; P J Grocott, RCT; J P A Gwizdala, RA; J E Hall, R SIGNALS; C R C Hexton, RRF; M W Hiskett, RRF; M C Hoskins, R SIGNALS.

N G M Hotson, ACC; J P Johnson, RAEC; A C P Kennett, PARA; G B Kershaw, RPC; G W Leach, RAEC; T E G Lipprian, LI; N N MacKenzie, RAEC; J B Mansell, RE; T Mariot, RA; J C D Martin, RA; B W McCall, REME; A I Moffat, RE; J L Newton, RAEC; M J Nolan, CHESHIRE; J P M Norbury, 16/5L; P J Nutsford, 14/20H; M R Oates, PARA; E A O'Connell, RTR; C H O'Rourke, R IRISH; A Othen, RE; S Pallant, RE; S Price, CHESHIRE; S P Rees, R ANGLIAN; N G S Roberts, RE; M G Robinson, R HAMPS; W K McL Robinson, RA; J C Robson, RE; J S Rooks, KINGS OWN BORDER; A J S Ross, RGJ; A J Runciman, PARA; P M Russell, RAEC; G J Segar, RE; D J Shoesmith, RCT; M I T Smalley, 4/7 DG; P A M Smith, R SIGNALS; T K Smith, RCT; O G S Stones, R HAMPS; C D Stott, REME; D J L Swann, QRIH; W C H Thatcher, RE; M A Thompson, REME; B Thorogood, QLR; P J Thorpe, RCT; J S Vincent, RCT; E P Walker, RAEC; P D Ward, REME; A J C Wild, R ANGLIAN; B R Wilkinson, RAEC; J R Wilkinson, RE; J B Wollocombe, RA.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

To commemorate the visit of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to Great Britain, Moreover Enterprises Ltd proudly announce the creation of a special Papal Radio Cassette Recorder.

Crafted from Italian mahogany, the casket containing this jewelled piece of machinery has been exclusively designed for us by Signore Marco McCormacki, the Papal Publicist-Designate to the Court of St James's.

The on/off knob of this hand-finished piece of antique technology has been tool-carved from real imitation ivorette, individually copied from genuine-type elephant tusks.

It costs only £4,600.

The Papal Radio Cassette Recorder will wake you in the morning at any pre-set time, God willing, with messages recorded in Polish or Latin by hand-chosen members of the Vatican Choir.

If you should fail to wake within 10 minutes, a snooze device will come into operation — a silver-gilt effigy of a Swiss Guard will emerge from the recorder and strike you on the head with a genuine model of a halberd.

Should you still fail to wake, a personal recorded message from the Pope will command you to be up and about, at the risk of damnation.

It costs only £4,600.

The design of this holy memento of the Papal Visit to Britain has been approved of by the Papal Visit Dignity and Respectability Testing Centre, Slough.

ONLY 500,000 OF THESE PAPAL RADIO CASSETTE RECORDERS ARE BEING MADE.

Every one has a brand new feature, never before used on a cassette system: the Built-In Two-way Confessional Unit.

If you will not have time to go to Confession during the day, you simply record your peccadilloes through a miniature ornate grill (based on a medieval design in Padua) on to a cassette, and drop the tape off at church or post it to your priest.

He will superimpose his responses on the tape (if he too has a Papal Visit Radio Cassette Recorder) and return it to you.

It costs only £9,200 — one for you and one for your priest.

Another exclusive device is the Plainsong Sleep Control, which will give you up to an hour of medieval chanting as you go to sleep and then switch off — or you may, if you wish, have the Pope wishing you good night in six languages, followed by silence.

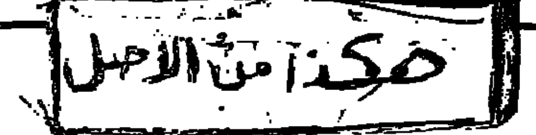
This is also the first radio cassette recorder with a Reverent Meditation Condition Control; to produce a tranquil calm in which to meditate, you simply pull the plug from the wall.

And if, however unlikely, anything should go wrong with the Papal Visit Radio Cassette Recorder, a puff of white smoke will be emitted to signify you need a new one.

It is only £4,600.

Make your cheque payable to Moreover Papal Account, Zurich, and send to this column.

Remember: this offer *must* close when all sets have been sold.



OBITUARY

MR CHARLES FIFE

Former Controller of Lands and Claims

Mr Charles Fife, CB, a former Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the War Office and Controller of Lands and Claims, died on March 14 at the age of 78.

Charles Morrison Fife was the son of Alexander John Fife and Margaret Anne Morrison. He was educated at King Edward's High School, Birmingham, and Christ's College, Cambridge, where he had a distinguished career, being Senior Scholar in 1922; John Stewart of Rannoch (University) Scholar in 1923 and Browne (University) Scholar in 1925. He took Firsts in both parts of the Classical Tripos, graduating in 1925 and took a Second Class in the Economics Tripos in the following year.

In 1926 he entered the Civil Service in the War Office and from 1934 to 1935 was Private Secretary to Sir Reginald Paterson, then Deputy Under-Secretary of State.

During the Second World War he was Controller of Lands and Claims, in which post he was concerned with a vast territory at home and abroad, as well as with accident claims against the Army and other government departments. In 1948 he became Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the War Office, retiring in 1964, the year in which the three separate offices were combined in the Ministry of Defence. He had been appointed CB in 1950.

Fife was a JP for the County of London from 1960 to 1965 and was Conservator of Wimbledon Common from 1960 to 1968.

A keen historian he continued his studies in this field after his retirement and could still be moved to write in protest at official iniquities. For many years he was a valued contributor to the obituary columns of *The Times*.

Fife married in 1940 Evelyn Mary Thicthener, who died in 1970. There were no children of the marriage.

VISCOUNT GAGE

Lord Chelwood writes:

Lord Gage was indeed a man of rare qualities. For 20 years of his half century in local government he was chairman of the county council's planning committee, and the largely unspoilt beauty of the Downs around Lewes owes much to his diplomatic skill and his refusal to be "druv".

Proposed as the council chairman, it was laughingly said that an ancestor's part in executing the Lewes Martyrs counted against him; to which he replied that the some forebear had petitioned Queen Elizabeth I to improve Seaford's sea defences. Such were the family roots that helped him to contribute to Sussex in so many ways "since the year dot" as someone said in Firle Church, where no one could remember when he did not read the lessons.

A convinced Tory, chairman or president of the Lewes Association for half his life, he scorned party dogma. Tradition and fresh ideas blended to give him rapport with people of all ages. The greatly respected "Father" of the Lords was one of many Tory peers with an open mind about electoral reform. Experience convinced him, however, that positive ideas about Lords' reform would continue to "attract more antis than pros" (*Times* letter, 1978). As for the European Community, he once summed up an endless local discussion with "Heaven help us outside"!

Rainald Gage was a shy man whose seeming gruffness was more than offset by the twinkle in his eye, his puckish sense of humour and his kindness. He hid his abilities behind genuine modesty and diffidence. There could be no finer memorial to a man of Sussex than the Downs he loved, which have embraced his family home for generations.

LORD BUTLER

Sir Leon Radzinowicz writes:
Penal policy and criminology are small fry in comparison with the big affairs of the world. But, as Sir Winston Churchill stated, when he was Home Secetary in a memorable and often-quoted speech of 1910:"The mood and temper of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the most unfailing tests of the civilization of any country".

This belief was also deeply felt by Lord Butler. Under his inspiration the Home Office drew up in 1959, a White Paper entitled *Penal Practice in a Changing Society*. Which laid down a firm foundation for criminological research within the department as well as in the universities. It led to the establishment of the first chair of criminology in England and an Institute of Criminology. That this should have happened in Cambridge, so close to his heart, gave him great pleasure. He continued to take a lively interest in the institute's development. For many years he was chairman of the advisory council. Only recently he lent his illustrious name to an appeal launched for funds to preserve the internationally recognized reputation of the institute's library.

SIR OWEN WANSBROUGH-JONES

The Rt. Rev. W. L. S. Fleming writes:

Wansbrough, the name by which Sir Owen Wansbrough-Jones was known to his friends, was not only a man of distinction, but of wisdom and infinite kindness. He became Tutor of Trinity Hall Cambridge while still in his twenties. This proved an inspired appointment, for he was outstanding in the exercise of that office. For him however the war put an end to college life and to his work in coloid science, but his interests and loyalties remained.

His family home was in Norfolk, but after the war he lived in London where former pupils and colleagues young and old from the Army, Civil Service, industry and the City knew they could always turn to him for advice. They found his understanding, his modesty (sometimes concealed under an assumed arrogance), his sense of humour and the clear principles which informed his council, encouraging, challenging and stabilizing.

He was basically a countryman at heart and loved a day's shooting. He caught from his mother, who lived to the age of 102, an enthusiasm for gardening. As a young man he was a good squash player and was proud to be elected President of the Jesters Club. A connoisseur of silver and of claret, he had a discriminating judgment in many fields. He sustained his lifelong interest in education through the Goldsmiths' Company and as a governor of Gresham's School of Westminster School and of Wellington College, and he treasured his links with Trinity Hall of which he was an honorary fellow. Wansbrough will be greatly missed by many who owe so much to his friendship and generosity.

Mr Reginald Ratcliffe, CB, MBE, who died on March 4 at the age of 74, was Controller, Royal Ordnance Factories, 1959-64 and a former president of the Institution of Production Engineers.

Athy's great mace is carried off for £17,050

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Great Mace of the Corporation of Athy created by John Williamson, the Dublin silversmith, in 1746 was sold at Sotheby's yesterday for £17,050 (estimate £6,000 to £9,000). It is a large object (187oz all in), surmounted by an openwork crown above a head embossed and engraved with the arms of George II and chased with emblems, demi-female figures and the Seal of Athy.

There are some 100 great maces extant, mostly in the possession of the relevant corporations. After the abolition of the Corporation of Athy in the mid-nineteenth century the mace was bought by the Duke of Leinster, whose ancestor had commissioned its creation.

Among the other historic items in Sotheby's silver sale was a pair of tea caddies and a sugar box by the great rococo silversmith, Paul de Lamerie which were sold for £35,200 (estimate £20,000) to M. P. Levene. They are dated 1738

There was also a silver-gilt covered jug on claw feet by Paul Storr which bears the royal arms of George III and those of Thomas, seventh Earl of Elgin (of marbles fame), presumably a royal gift to the eminent diplomat and vandal. Dated 1799 and weighing 47oz, it was bought by Koopman for £23,100 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000). The silver sale was 13 per cent unsold.

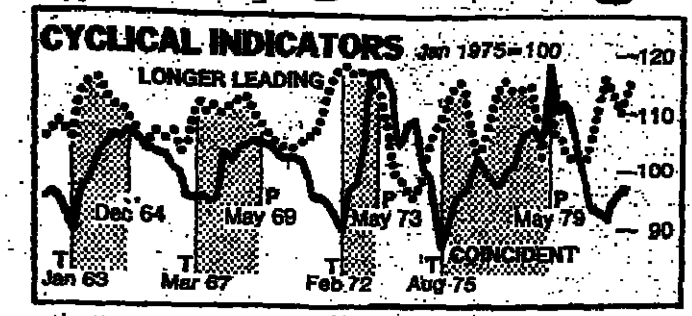
All the best watercolours in Sotheby's afternoon sale comfortably topped estimates. Turner was, as usual, in the lead with a tiny, highly coloured vignette of Caerlaverock Castle selling to Agnew's at £28,600 (estimate £12,000 to £18,000).

A new auction record price was achieved for a drawing by Fuseli when "Mrs Fuseli as a courtesan, seated, wearing an elaborate headdress" sold for £25,300. The unfinished drawing shows the artists lovely wife bare bosomed above a flowing skirt. The price is good news for the unnamed owner who bought the drawing recently for £1 with a group of picture frames.

Two blue-grey watercolours by John Robert Cozens of "London from Greenwich Hill" and "The Lake of Nemi" went to the same purchaser at £13,200 (estimate £8,000 to £12,000) and £14,300 (estimate £7,000 to £10,000). The sale was 16 per cent unsold.

BUSINESS NEWS

Advancing in strength



There was a strong rise last month in the Government's composite index of "longer leading" indicators, which predict the ups and downs in the economy about a year ahead. It is the fourth consecutive monthly rise. The main reason for the February advance was the downturn in interest rates and the upturn in share prices. These are components of the composite index of longer leading indicators. The separate, "coincident" index, which shows the stage of the business cycle currently reached, has been flat since the late summer.

Trio cut lending rates

Germany, Switzerland and The Netherlands yesterday acted together to cut their key lending rates by half a percentage point. The Dutch moved first to lower bank rate to 8 per cent, followed immediately by the German Central Bank which cut its special Lombard rate from 10 to 9½ per cent. Later the Swiss National Bank announced a cut in bank rate from 6 to 5.5 per cent.

Third order from Oman

British Shipbuilders yesterday became the third company to announce a major contract between British industry and Oman, bringing the total value of deals during this week's State visit by the Sultan of Oman to almost £300m. Brooke Marine the British Shipbuilders subsidiary, is to build a £20m logistic support vessel for the Sultanate's navy. Earlier, Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman emphasised to trade unions the need for continued improvement in productivity and performance.

BSC backs the Euro Route

Mr Ian MacGregor, the British Steel Corporation chairman, is trying to swing Parliamentary support behind a £3,800m Channel link project which BSC is involved in promoting with a consortium including British Shipbuilders called Euro Route Group. "It is time the present generation caried out the kind of major capital schemes and investment which will benefit not just ourselves but our children and our grandchildren", Mr MacGregor said.

Post computer

The Post Office is starting to computerize its counter services. Trial systems costing £400,000 are to be installed in four post offices yet to be decided. Counter clerks will record customer transactions directly on computer terminals.

● Mr John Quinton, senior general manager of Barclays, is to succeed Mr Stuart Graham of Midland Bank as chairman of the chief executive officers' committee of the Committee of London Clearing Banks.

Leading shareholders criticize banks' decision to withdraw support

No new rescue as Stone-Platt fails

Stone-Platt, the troubled textile machinery manufacturer collapsed yesterday only a year after the last rescue operation, organized by the Bank of England.

The receiver was called in after a week of intense discussion with the company's bankers, again involving the Bank. The final move to precipitate the collapse was immediately denounced by two of the company's institutional shareholders — Equity Capital for Industry and M&G.

Midland is Stone-Platt's leading bank. Others involved are Barclays, and its merchant bank, National Westminster, and Williams and Glyn's.

Despite the effort of Stone-Platt's management to turn round the company, the banks and institutions could not reach agreement on a rescue package.

Ironically, the move came as Stone-Platt was just about to announce the sale of its loss-making textile machinery subsidiary, Platt Saco Lowell Textile Machinery (PSL) to an American buyer. It was also about to exchange contracts for the sale and leaseback of its Crawley factory and the sale of its Altringham factory for £4.5m. Borrowings are at about the full extent of the £34m facility allowed by its bankers.

These deals, it was hoped, would bring borrowings down to around £22m. With the rest of the group breaking even, Stone-Platt would then have gone to its main shareholders in the autumn to raise £5¼m to £7m from a rights issue. But the banks wanted a reconstruction now.

Mr Leslie Pincott, Stone-Platt, chairman said he understood the band's attitude. "The banks were not able to acceed to the company's plans, even though four leading shareholders were prepared to offer indications if assistance.

"i do not blame the bands. I am just worried about the fact that the system cannot help an engineering company with technology and hard working people," he added.

The main shareholders, which include Equity Capital for Industry.

At Equity Capital for Industry, which is owned by leading City institutions, Mr Brian Dean said: "ECI is shocked and dismaved that after so much time and effort and money over two years the banks should have run away, just when a final solution was in sight."

At M & G, Mr David Hopkinson said: "I an sad that with a company that would have been profitable and viale in 1983 the banks were not prepared to have patience." The sum involved was "chicken-feed" for the banks. He was also dismayed that they had not been prepared to back Mr Pincott, who had done a "superb" job and was successfully turning the company around.

While second half losses at Stone-Platt were running at the same rate as in the first — around £7m — the institution believed that it would be back in profit in 1983 and able to reduce its gearing to around 60 per cent of the equity. They were prepared to participate in a rights issue later this year, but not at this stage.

The institutions believed in the growth potential of the electrical side, which supplies air-conditioning, ventilation heating and lighting for subway systems. It has orders for New York, Hongkong, and the Middle East worth about £43m with about an equal volume of possible further orders. Other parts of Stone-Platt involved with textiles, are on course to increase business.

DIARY OF A FAILURE

April 1980: Default on borrowings and forced to rearrange loans of nearly £40m. Bank of England co-ordinates talks among bankers.
November 1980: Mr Leslie Pincott takes over as chairman. Pump division sold for £11.5m.
March 1981: Second rescue operation. £10m raised through share issue.
April 1981: Third rescue package rejected by small shareholders. City institutions meet all costs of £10m injection. Losses of £15m for 1980 announced.
May 1981: Sells fixed-pitch propeller business for £3.5m.
October 1981: Chief executive Robin Taverner resigns.
March 1982: Receiver called in.

Treasury confirms no tax drop

By Melvyn Westlake

The Treasury yesterday confirmed the claims of Labour Shadow ministers that the typical taxpayer on average earnings would see no reduction in his tax burden in the coming year, and in some cases would face an increase.

A married man with two children, on average earnings, will see 45.2 per cent of his pay go to meet income tax, national insurance contributions, indirect taxes like VAT and household rates.

This was disclosed by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury in the House, in reply to a question by Mr Jack Straw, Labour, Blackburn.

The typical married man would have been paying 45 per cent of his earnings in taxes during the year just ending and 42.7 per cent in 1980-81.

Those earning less than average will, in many cases, see little change in their tax burden this year, but the higher paid will enjoy some reductions.

In doing its sums, the Treasury has assumed that earnings increase by about 7½ per cent during the coming 12 months, to reach £160 a week on average.

A married man, with two children, receiving only three-quarters of average pay will pay 43.4 per cent in total taxes. This is almost exactly the same as paid in 1981-82.

A single person, on the same level of earnings will, however, be paying more.

At the other end of the spectrum, a married man receiving ten times average earnings will see his personal tax burden drop from 52.4 to 52.1 per cent. This is not strictly comparable with those on average levels of pay because it excludes indirect taxes and household rates. Treasury economists find it much more difficult to estimate how much the higher earners actually pay in excise duties, VAT and rates.

In the case of higher earners, only income tax and national insurance is taken into account.

There was a good deal of confusion immediately after the Budget about whether the Chancellor had actually reduced the tax burden for most people.

It is now clear that if all taxes are taken together, there will not be a significant reduction for most people earning less than £240 a week in the coming year.

This equivalent to 150 per cent of average pay which is probably as much as many skilled workers in industry can hope to get.

Closure costs leave GKN with net loss

GKN, the car components and engineering group, moved from a pretax loss of £1.2m in 1980 to a pretax profit of £34.6m last year.

But unrelieved overseas taxation and £24.8m of closure costs left it with a net loss for the year of £37.5m. In the previous year, the group's reserves had been depleted by £103m after rationalization costs and provisions amounting to almost £50m.

Most of the rationalization took place in the United Kingdom and last year there was a further reduction in the workforce of 14,400, including 10,000 redundancies. The remaining 4,000 jobs were those in companies which are now part of Allied Steel & Wire.

GKN said yesterday that the restructuring would continue. There would be more divestments and possibly further plant closures this year.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth, GKN chairman, said that given the present level of demand it was not unreasonable to expect results for the current hald year to be similar to those for the second half of last year.

Then the company had a trading surplus of more than £60m and pretax profits of £28.2m.

In spite of the heavy rationalization costs GKN has maintained its dividend at 8p net per share (at a cost of £6.5m) and reports that borrowings have been reduced. This reflected stringent control of working capital and increased operating efficiency.

Business Editor page 17

Reluctant Opec could drop prices

From Jonathan Davis, Vienna, March 18

Oil ministers from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries gathered here today for an emergency meeting amid mounting speculation that market forces will force them to cut oil prices against their wishes.

The first public comments from delegates underlined how aware they have become that the world oil glut is putting their abiliy to fix the price to its severest test for years.

They also acknowledged that Opec's plan to maintain price levels by a concerted programme of production cuts was not certain to succeed. The plan, envisages placing a ceiling on production from Opec's 13 members of 18.5 million barrels a day, which is nominally 1.5 million barrels a day below output levels.

Dr Mana Saeed Oteiba, of the United Arab Emirates and Opec chairman, said that Opec may well be forced to trim output even further.

3 per cent cutback in industry's fuel bills

By Derek Hill, Commercial Editor

Esso has joined Shell in cutting fuel costs for industry and diesel fuel for transport fleets. Phillips Petroleum, which does not supply the retail trade, also moved into line last night and other big oil companies are expected to bring in similar cuts today or early next week.

The cuts, which leave the pump price of petrol at current levels, represent big savings for many industries. It can amount to between 2 and 3 per cent of fuel bills, with big users benefiting by up to £500,000 a year.

In reflecting the weak market for fuels during the continuing oil glut, the cuts will further bit the oil companies' already shrunken margins. Petrol prices in the last six months have been slashed with little benefit going to industry.

Oil companies have already frozen the level of ther price support for petrol retailers and want to keep retail prices at their present level. Giving more away to the industrial sector will make the companies around £500m a year annual rate, and if these are cut back petrol will rise proportionately.

Esso is clipping 2p a gallon off commercial deliveries to companies of petrol and diesel fuel, with diesel cuts to service stations which should bring pump prices down 2.5p a gallon.

Of the two main industrial fuels for factory use, gas oil goes down 2p a gallon and fuel oil by 0.9p a gallon.

Domestic central heating installations benefit from a 1p a gallon reduction in the price of kerosene.

The cuts are largely in line with the reductions already made by Shell.

Last year, compared with 1980, demand by industry for fuels declined between 18 and 25 per cent in various sectors. Petrol deliveries were down 2.2 per cent.

Peter Addis

Assault on batteries group

Scientists on the march: a brief pause for some of 200 placard-carrying scientists and technicians from the Tottenham, London research centre of the Berec batteries group yesterday (now known as British Ever Ready) who marched on the Knightsbridge headquarters of its Hanson Trust parent group as part of their campaign to prevent the rundown of the company's activities. Hanson directors on the Berec board have agreed to discuss the issue with union leader, Mr Roger Lyons, on March 29.

NABISCO'S £84m BID REFERRED

By Our Financial Staff

Nabisco Brands, the United States food group, yesterday made its expected £84m counterbid for Huntley & Palmer and was promptly referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Earlier this week the Office of Fair Trading decided to refer Rowntree Mackintosh's £72.5m offer for Huntley. The OFT is believed to have recommended the reference on the grounds that the merger would give Nabisco 40 per cent of the British snacks market and that a failure to refer the offer would be diadvantageous to both bidders.

Both offers are effectively in limbo until the commission's report, which will take at least six months. But the Huntley board favours a merger with the American group.

Nabisco, advised by N. M. Rothschild, says it will offer 120p for each Huntley share with an alternative cash offer equivalent to 115p a share. Rowntree's bid is pitched at 105p a share.

BAT likely to raise store bid

From Nicholas Hirst
New York, March 18

BAT Industries, the former British American Tobacco Company, was expected to increase the terms of its $310m (£171.2m) offer for the Chicago-based Marshall Field department store yesterday.

Marshall Field, which has stores selling to middle-to-upper-income group people in several states, had requested a suspension of its shares on the New York stock exchange earlier yesterday.. after a hectic day's trading — the common stock was the fifth most active in the market — the shares closed last night up $1.00 to equal the BAT offer price of $25.50.

The company announced that the suspension was requested because the board of BATs, the holding company of BAT in the United States, which owns the Gimbel and the prestigious Saks stores as well as tobacco interests, was meeting to consider a possible revision of the offer terms, including price.

Experts here believed that the initial offer was an opening shot. Five years ago the Carter Hawley Hale store group made an unsuccessful $42-a-share offer.

Documents filed with the American Securities and Exchange Commission revealed that the Chicago stores group had received two recent bid approaches which were only slightly lower than the BATs offer.

Steady rise in loans to private sector

By John Whitmore

Bank lending to the private sector continued to grow strongly last month. Figures released by the Bank of England yesterday showed that such lending grew by a seasonally adjusted £1,976m. in the four weeks to February 17.

This brings the rise in lending to the private sector to just over £12,750m in the past 12 months. Over the last six months, lending has grown at an annual rate of more than £18,500m, or rather more than 30 per cent per annum.

The latest figures may, however, exaggerate the trend. The four weeks to mid-February saw considerable pressures on corporate liquidity, not only to meet normal tax payments but also an estimated £500m-£750m of tax still owing as a result of last summer's civil service dispute.

Against this rapid expansion in private sector credit, public sector transactions had a large contractionary impact on domestic credit. Central government was in surplus to the tune of £416m; the rest of the public sector had a contractionary effect of £88m; and the non-bank private sector took up £1,188m. of public sector debt.

As already intimated by the Bank last week, sterling M3, the broad measure of banking money, was barely changed on the month. This reduced the rate of growth over the last year to 14½ per cent.

British residents' holdings of foreign curency deposits in United Kingdom banks rose by £220m in the four weeks, the whole of the increase being attributable to valuation changes.

Tables, page 14.
Business Editor, page 15.

Tax evaders uncovered

Thirty-eight thousand taxpayers who received interest from bank deposit accounts or similar investments failed to declare this income to the Inland Revenue last year (Lorna Bourke writes). In addition, 53,335 either deliberately or accidently underpaid tax amounting to £116.9m.

More than 22,000 of these taxpayers were systematically falsifying their returns involving what the Revenue describes as "negligence, wilful default or fraud". When the Revenue caught up with them they paid not only the unpaid tax, but penalties and interest payments amounting to more than £32m.

These and many more facts about the British taxpayer emerge from the latest annual report of the Inland Revenue for the year ending 1981, March 31.

MARKET SUMMARY

About-turn for equities

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 556.8 up 5.4
FT Gilts 68.30 up 0.29
FT All Share 319.24 up 1.81
Bargains 19,781

Equities completed a smart about turn yesterday helped by a bear squeeze and lower interest rates on the Continent.

However, business was down to a trickle with more interest centred on Silver Buck's 8-1 victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup — a regular highlight of the Stock Market's social calendar.

Nevertheless, dealers went some way to repair the damage of the previous day's 11.0 fall stemming from Turner & Newall's surprise loss and no dividend. The FT Index having opened the day 1.0 higher closed 5.4 up at 556.8, but Turner fell a further 3p to 74p.

The decision by Stone Platt to suspend the shares at 12½p prior to calling in the receiver came as no surprise following intense speculation over the past week. GKN's return to the black, however, was greeted with a 3p rise to 162p, although the chairman's cautious remarks went some way to stifling the celebrations.

A few cheap buyers were on hand to give the gilt market a lift as the final applications for the Government index-linked stock arrived at the Bank of England. Dealings are due to start next week at a tender price of between £90 to £100.

Turnover in the rest of the market remainded on the low side with rises of up to £½ in longs while at the shorter end the improvement was limited to one of £¼.

Arthur Holden closed 2p down to 178p after brokers Hoare Govett announced that they had acqured the remaining 4.9 per cent of shares on behalf of ICI, unchanged at 342p. ICI now holds 1.6m shares or 14.9 per cent of the equity and is confident of a favourable outcome to the Monopolies Commission's findings into the bid.

Meanwhile, Huntley & Palmer rose 6p to 90p after agreeing terms of a counterbid from the United States food group Nabisco. Now the fate of the group rests in the hands of the Monopolies Commission which is currently looking into the bid from Rowntree Macintosh, unchanged at 166p.

Numerous rumours surrounded the 36 per cent increase in pretax profits to £56m at Sedgwick Group, including a rights issue, possible acquisitions and a dawn raid. The United States brokers Alexander & Alexander were tipped in connexion with the latter. But it was dismissed as "totally untrue" by newly elected president, Mr Tinsley H. Irving. Sedgwick ended the day unchanged at 149p, after 152p.

Associated Leisure leapt 11p at 100p on the news it is to spend £11.1m on Smiths Happiway Spencers, a Wigan-based coach holidays business.

Capseals rose 5p to 50p after the Worcester Engineering Co. paid £450,000 for Capseals waterproof and barrier paper manufacturing subsidiary.

The Rank Organization improved 2p to 196p after Mr Harry Smith, the outgoing chairman, told shareholders there was no evidence of an increase in economic activity.

A line of 400,000 shares clipped 1p from the price of Jardine Mattheson at 146p.

Equity turnover on March 18, was £150,682m (17,095 bargains).

MICHAEL CLARK

COMMODITIES

● After its precipitous plunge yesterday, May coffee put on £1 to £1,229 a tonne and March delivery gained £4 to £1,417. There was widespread buying interest, but coffee closed below the day's highs after commission house selling. Dealers were sceptical about the capacity of the rally to sustain itself, and felt that the underlying trends are still bearish.

● Cocoa spot contract closed £11 down at £1,096 a tonne, with May cocoa falling £14 to £1,076. International Cocoa Organization delegates meeting in London said that they are likely to agree this week to borrowing $75m by raising a 2 cent levy on members. But it was pointed out in the market that this would purchase only another 36,000 tonnes, not enough decisively to alter the supply and demand balance. The indications are that a good Brazilian crop will help to create a market overhang of up to 300,000 tonnes this year.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,052.80 up 163.27.
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,188.20 down 3.47.

CURRENCIES

● The ailing French franc dominated the markets, with both the dollar and sterling trading quietly on the sidelines. The pound made good gains on European currencies and the yen.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.8100 unchanged
Index 91.1 up 0.4
DM 4.3000
Fr F 11.2200
Yen 438.00

Dollar
Index 114.3 up 0.5
DM 2.3745 up 30 pts

Gold
$323 up $10

MONEY MARKETS

● Rates tended to be slightly easier where changed. The Bank of England relieved an estimated shortage of £350m. by buying £347m. of bills at unchanged rates.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 13%
3-month interbank 13⅝-13½

Euro Currency Rates:
3 month dollar 14⅞-15⅛
3 month DM 9⅜-9¼
3 month Fr.F. 24-23

TODAY

House-Builders Federation launches New Homes Marketing Board, London. Opec meeting, Vienna. UK retail prices index (February); tax and price index (February).
Board meetings interims: Gartons, Mills and Allen, Minerals and Resources, Waring and Gillow. Finals: BL, Edinburgh Investment Trust, Midland Bank, Montfort (Knitting Mills), George Oliver (Footwear).



Mr Jack Gill acts to secure £560,000 golden handshake

ACC directors face showdown over payoff

By Philip Robinson

Mr Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of Associated Communications Corporation, moved yesterday to force a showdown with his former boardroom colleagues.

In January, ACC directors including their former chairman Lord Grade, promised the High Court that they would limit the use of their shares solely to adjourn a special shareholders meeting called to consider a record £560,000 payoff to Mr Gill.

Yesterday Sir David Napley, Mr Gill's lawyer, said he was applying to the High Court early next week to have those promises rescinded.

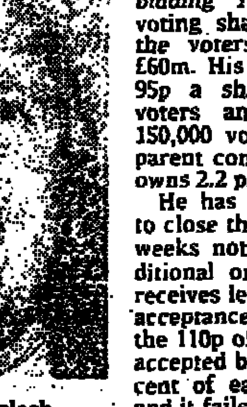
That would mean the ACC directors could then vote as they saw fit. But if they voted against the payoff and property deal, Mr Gill could take legal action against individual directors who had promised to support his "golden handshake" with their 45.3 per cent of th e voting shares.

If they decided to continually adjourn the meeting, Sir David said he would then consider other legal action because they were "ducking the issue".

If they voted for the deal, no part of that decision could be implimented because of the separate High Court action by ACC's institutional shareholders, lead by the Post Office pension fund which are opposing Mr Gill's payoff on the grounds that it represents an unfair and prejudicial action against a minority of shareholders.

Sir David spelled out his intentions after a resumed "goldent handshake" meeting yesterday. It was first convened for January 8, has been adjourned three times and was adjourned again yesterday until April 20.

Under an agreement with ACC, while Mr Gill's payoff is still not settled, ACC continues to pay for his car, chauffeur and the outgoings of his house.



Mr Jack Gill: clash with ACC board

Mr Holmes à Court's TVW Enterprises, which already owns 53 per cent of the ACC non-voting shares, has two offers on the table. His first, bidding 110p for the non voting shares and £4.40 for the voters, values ACC at £60m. His second is offering 95p a share for the non-voters and £3.80 for the 150,000 voters, of which its parent company, Bell Group, owns 2.2 per cent.

He has reserved the right to close the 110p offer at two weeks notice and go unconditional on that offer if he receives less than 90 per cent acceptance. If he decides that the 110p offer will have to be accepted by holders of 90 per cent of each class of share and it fails, he will then allow it to lapse and switch to the 95p a share bid which is conditional only on getting more than 50 per cent of the voting shares.

Mr Holmes a Court appears at a resumed hearing of the Takeover Panel today to explain why he failed to revise his 85p bid

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Squeeze on gold producers . . . Steetley starts to recover

Mines fail to cover their costs

Gold shares are going through their worst patch since 1976 (Michael Prest writes). One figure tells the story: assuming an average production cost of $200 an ounce, the average profit margin of South Africa mines in the last quarter of 1981 was $218; but a rise in costs and the collapse of the gold price to nearer $300 has possibly halved the margin.

As a result, ten South African mines are receiving less for their gold than it costs to extract. They include such speculative favourites as East Rand Proprietary Mines. Venterspost and Lorraine. ERPM and Durban Roodepoort Deep have recently announced that a major part of their modernization programme has been curtailed by the low gold price.

Roughly another 10 mines have costs of between $100 and $200 an ounce, and those grouped near the upper end of the range will suffer from thin margins if the gold price sticks at current levels. It is not surprising that brokers are turning to the good quality and low cost mines such as Driefontein, Southvaal and Winkelhaak.

But even these shares are being treated warily. A lot of brokers evidently feel that the market has not caught up with the recent gold price collapse, and that the shares are consequently overpriced. Some estimate mines are still discounting a gold price of as high as $370.

Last year the mines were partly cushioned against falling gold by a depreciating Rand. There is additional worry that the Pretoria government, faced with falling revenue, will introduce a loan levy, perhaps of 10 per cent, in its budget on March 24.

The key factor may be American perceptions of where the major low cost mines are going. New York money has moved gold shares in recent years, and is likely to do so again. But until that happens, the word is to stay out, except to buy on exceptional weakness.

One possible opportunity is Vaal Reefs, which at £21 is half its high.



Gold: going through a rough patch

Profits dip but worst over

The worst could be over for Steetley, the minerals, construction and chemicals group, with full year figures showing only a 5 per cent fall to £17.3m pre-tax after being 16 per cent adrift at the half-way stage, (Gareth David writes).

This was in the face of depressed demand in the steel, construction and chemical industries, and while the downturn in the steel division could be permanent, there should be a recovery in chemicals and particularly building materials in the current year.

Overseas activities continued to make good progress, rising as a proportion of group operating profits by 37 per cent to account for 48 per cent of profits while United Kingdom operations showed a 14 per cent fall.

But recession in North America will prevent any improvement from steel and industrial equipment business there, while the weakness of sterling could eliminate last year's £1.2m exchange gain on consolidation of overseas profits.

To expand further its mineral based activities, Steetley had agreed to the disposal of its Australian chemical business to Harrisons & Crosfield for approximately A$20m. This will not affect Steetley's other operations in Australia and will make a useful reduction to the group's heavy borrowings. Interest payments rose from £6.99m to £9.16m in the year to December.

The 1981 figures — which were on sales up from £345.7m to £402.4m — are after a charge of £1.2m for redundancy payments in the United Kingdom and include £900,000 representing six months profits from G. H. Downing, the building materials group acquired last July for £15.9m.

With a 9.29p final, dividends for the year remain unchanged at 15p per share gross, but even with the anticipated rise in profits for the current year to around £20m pretax, the dividend cover of 1.6 leaves little room for any increase in distributions.

Steetley shares rose 4p to 181p on results, where they yield 8.3 per cent, but the fully taxed p/e ratio is a demanding 11.7.

Good news in the crystal ball

Waterford Glass was an industrial success story which mirrored the growth of the Irish economy up until 1979, (Drew Johnston writes). That year profits peaked at Ir£11.6m, then fell away to Ir£8m. The company blamed the international recession.

But now, in spite of the continuing recession, Waterford is making a spirited recovery. Analysts expect favourable currency movements to take the 1981 pretax profits up to Ir£10.5m. A hoped-for slight increase in the dividend payout makes the prospective dividend yield under Ireland's more complex corporation tax rules around 7.5 per cent.

Crystal and pottery products, the core of the business, is understood to be leading the profits recovery with a high proportion of sales going to the United States. The crystal, from Ireland, and the pottery, from the Aynsley subsidiary in the English Potteries, have both benefited from the respective exchange rates of the Irish pound and sterling against the dollar.

The share price is 19p in London, but could go much higher if next Tuesday's figures live up to expectations. The growth profile is for steady progress in the next three or four years, depending to some extent on the success of the new lightingware business. This will contribute at least Ir£500,000 this year, analysts say.



Mr P. W. McGrath, chairman of Waterford Glass

INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN

In Japan car sales are likely to go up 2.7 per cent this year to about 5.236 million units, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said yesterday. Demand for small and medium-sized passenger cars will rise 3.3 per cent the association said to about 2.8 million units. Domestic demand for small trucks is expected to fall 0.3 per cent this year, to 990,000 units. Bus demand sales are put at 23,400 units, showing an increase of 3.1 per cent.

Japanese finance ministry officials have denied a *Nihon Keizai* newspaper report claiming that the European Community has urged Japan to impose a surcharge on exports of steel, cars and advanced technological items to temper their price competitiveness in west European markets.

WEST GERMANY

Kloeckner-Werke, the West German steel group, is seeking government support for a new plan to rationalize production. Kloeckner's plan involves sharp cutbacks in crude steel output, at 4.8 million tons last year, in an attempt to return the company to profitability.

● West Germany's cost of living index rose 0.2 per cent in the month to mid-February after a 0.9 per cent rise to mid-January.

● Lurgi Gesellschaften, the engineering arm of Metallgesellschaft, is to design and deliver a polypropylene spunbonded web plant to Nan Ya plastics of Taiwan.

● West Germany registered 212,355 new motor vehicles in February, 7.1 per cent fewer than in February 1981. But motorcycle registrations, at 18,711, increased 52 per cent over the previous February.

UNITED STATES

Jones and Laughlin steel, a subsidiary of LTV of Dallas, is to lay off 1,000 workers at two seamless pipe plants, due to weakening demand for its products, primarily from the oil industry.

● Kawasaki, of Japan, has won a contract to build 325 air-conditioned "graffiti-proof" stainless carriages for the New York subway system at $844,500 (£469,166) each.

SOUTH AFRICA

The preferential trade agreement between South Africa and Zimbabwe, due to expire March 24, has been exteded until further notice, Mr Dawie de Villiers, South African Minister if Industries, Commerce and Tourism said yesterday. "Methods to alleviate the problems which gave rise to the notice of termination of the agreement are now being considered," he said.

ITALY

Italy's electric power consumption rose to 15,510m kilowatt hours last month, up 1.6 per cent from the same month last year. In the two first months of the year consumption declined 0.1 per cent, from last year. Imports of electric power last month fell 60 per cent, to 366m kilowatt hours, from a year earlier.

ASSOC LEISURE

Invading another space . . .

With the Space Invaders boom apparently over, Associated Leisure, which has nearly one fifth of the amusement machine market, has diversified its interests with the £11.18m acquisition of Smiths Happiway Spencers, a Wigan-based coach tour and holiday company.

Associated Leisure had been seeking a major acquisition which would both contribute to earnings and offer the prospect of further growth.

It will finance the purchase by the issue of £4.67m 11 per cent guaranteed unsecured loan stock and the issue of 1.5m ordinary shares, representing 5.7 per cent of the existing ordinary capital. A further £1.1m will be paid in April 1983 in either loan stock or cash.

Turnover of SHS in 1981 was £13.9m and pre-tax profits amounted to £2.43m. The group has net tangible assets of £7.4m which include 150 coaches and nine hotels in British resorts. It sold 135,000 holidays in 1981.

The combination of severe weather and continuing recession has hit the trade of the establishments where most of Associated Leisure's amusement machines are sited, leaving in the second half of the year to March 14 lower than the first although still up on the previous year.

But the group has enjoyed a strong cash flow, with borrowings, other than £3.76m of 7½ per cent unsecured loan stock, reduced to £1.24m at March 3, while cash balances rose from £0.19m to £3.52m.

Preliminary results for the year to March 14 are expected to show a recovery after the slump from £5.3m to £4.6m in the year to March 1981, with analysts looking for around £4.3m. At the half-way stage, pre-tax profits were down from £3.24m to £2.34

Lord Jessel, chairman of Associated Leisure

BEJAM

Fast move

Bejam, Britain's largest chain of frozen food centres, has moved out of its lossmaking fast foods venture quickly enough for the benefits to show through already.

Pretax profits are up to £5.7m in the six months to January, compared with the £4.5m made last time when profits were depressed by the losses in the Trumps hamburger restaurants division which has been sold. Sales in the period are up 17 per cent to £114.6m, with retail food sales up 20 per cent. After eliminating those sales and losses the net profit achieved in continuing businesses is unchanged at just over 5 per cent of turnover.

Bejam, despite a sales slump because of the recent bad weather, says that turnover was marginally ahead of target and was running at around the level of its peak pre-Christmas sales period.

This puts the group on course to make £11m this year. Sales of freezers and microwave cookers rose by 19 per cent and Mr John Adthorp, chairman, sees this as just the beginning of the microwave boom.

The group has 172 stores — mainly in the south of the country — and is planning to open another six this year. Three of its stores are being extended.

Bejam says it is not overworried by the stiffer competition from the increasing tendency of large supermarkets, such as Sainsburys and Asda, to expand their own freezer departments. Indeed, Mr Adthorp says that their best sites are situated next to Sainsburys or other such stores in main shopping precincts.

The half year dividend is unchanged at 1.78p gross, or 1.28p gross when adjusted for the scrip issue. The shares slipped 3p to 126p.

LIVERPOOL POST

Paper profits

The Liverpool Daily Post & Echo group yesterday returned to the profit levels achieved two years ago. In 1980 a major dispute with the National Graphical Association, falling advertising revenue and s strong pound pulled profits down to their lowest for a decade.

Last year its United Kingdom newspapers achieved a £1.7m turnaround from losses to profit, North American newspapers increased their contribution by around three quarters and the papermaking and packaging division produced a record £2.57m.

The performance gave the Merseyside newspaper group, which is rapidly increasing its publishing interests outside the United Kingdom, a pre-tax profit of £3.8m against £1.5m last time on a turnover which rose from £49.3m to £62.5m in the year to December.

The group has increased the dividend by 7 per cent to a gross 14.5p with a 9.2p final and the shares, 82p at one point in the past 12 months, jumped 10p to a new 162p peak for the year.

Profits from the group's United Kingdom publications were £1.4m against a loss of £224,000 last time, but still some way below the 1979 profits of £2.7m.

The group owns two chains in the United States and has recently added two more weekly papers, and has one daily and a number of weekly newspapers in Canada. North American profits rose from £860,000 to £1.4m. The paper and packaging side increased from £1.172m to £2.57m.

The group is saying *little* of trading performance in the past two months, but expects further expansion in the United Kingdom to be in its packaging division. In newpapers, the group continues to look to North America.

LLOYDS BANK

Note of caution

Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, says he expects banks to be more cautious in their international lending until there are clear signs of an improvement in world economic conditions.

Events in Poland and Iran have led to fears that the general credit structure has been excessively weakened, he says in the group's annual report. He does not expect widespread defaults

The position in the UK, where the bank has had to give special support to small businesses and individuals, also points to capital strength. To protect depositors Lloyds itself has had to keep its capital position sound.

In 1981 the bank's ratio of deposits to free capital was 19½ to 1 and although these were satisfactory, he adds they would have been better by a full point if last year's profits had not been reduced by the £59m paid on the "ill-judged" special levy imposed on UK banks.

KCA DRILLING

Floating clear

Despite last June's disappointing flotation of KCA Drilling, the first set of full year figures have lived up to expectations.

Pre-tax profits for 1981 have exceeded the forecast made at the time of the float from its parent company, KCA International, by 12.26 per cent, revealing an increase from £3.5m to £5.8m. Turnover rose from £16.8m to £26.95m with earnings a share of 7.765p. The flotation was made at the same time on BP's rights issue announcement.

Shareholders will receive a first time payment of 1.87p a share.

In his statement accompanying the figures Mr Paul Bristol, chairman, said: "All the company's contracts offshore in the North Sea and onshore overseas are progressing well". The drillship Polly Bristol, under contract to Spanish oil company Campsa for $95,000 a day, was progressing as planned, he added.

Borrowing of the new company stood at £1.8m during 1981 — a figure unlikely to rise drastically during the current year, although at least one major contract is under way.

The biggest is a drilling contract for Mobil's Beryl B platform costing $25m and due to come on stream some time next year.

News of the figures added 2p to the shares at 64p against the flotation price of 95p. KCA International, currently with 75 per cent of the equity, has no plans yet to dilute its holding further.

SEDGWICK GROUP

Profits up 36pc

Sedgwick Group, the London-based insurance and reinsurance broker, has boosted pretax profits by 36 per cent from £41.56m to £56.4m for the year to December 1981. Revenue increased to £168.8m from £135.1m, a rise of 25 per cent.

The group said its brokerage income would have been greater but for the continuing effects of low insurance rates for most classes of business throughout the world. Favourable exchange rates in the second half of the year benefited the income figures.

Interest earnings were also higher in 1980, partly as a result of high international interest rates. Earnings per ordinary share rose to 13.4p from 10.1p, and dividend was increased from 4.28p to 5.35p gross. This brings the total payout for the year to 8.57p gross against 7.14p gross.

On a current cost basis, profit before tax was £54.8m against £38.8m. Earnings per share were 12.7p against 8.9p current cost.

STATISTICS

CAPITAL SPENDING

Department of Industry figures for the fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing, distributing and service for the increase in the value of stocks, all seasonally adjusted at 1975 prices.

		£m Investment Total	Mfg	£m Change in Stocks
1978		9,002	3,769	641
1979		9,973	3,969	742
1980		10,217	3,577	-1,881
1981		9,742	2,947	-1,063
1980	Q1	2,562	959	-433
	Q2	2,547	918	-219
	Q3	2,529	893	-393
	Q4	2,579	808	-835
1981	Q1	2,413	781	-442
	Q2	2,450	761	-518
	Q3	2,419	705	- 78
	Q4	2,460	701	- 25

MONEY SUPPLY

Monthly amount of money stock seasonally adjusted at mid-month

	M1 £000m	Sterling M3 £000m	Private sector liquidity
1981			
Feb	29,690	67,540	122,109
March	29,560	68,010	123,109
April	31,010	69,570	125,696
May	31,210	70,700	127,250
June	31,060	70,850	127,867
July	32,060	72,380	129,690
Aug	31,270	73,100	130,686
Sept	31,790	74,520	132,481
Oct	31,690	75,690	133,531
Nov*	31,840	75,970	133,611
Dec	33,980	83,280	134,438
1982			
Jan	34,600	84,700	136,137
Feb	34,460	84,640	136,829

*change in series

Monthly change in sterling M3 and domestic credit expansion £m

	Bank loans to private sector	Domestic credit expansion	Sterling M3
1981			
March	+1,054	+ 814	+ 434
April	+ 406	+2,058	+1,560
May	+ 48	+1,208	+1,129
June	+ 48	+1,164	+ 182
July	+ 408	+2,240	+1,564
Aug	+1,457	+1,240	+ 793
Sept	+1,206	+2,459	+1,487
Oct	+ 776	+1,551	+1,206
Nov	+2,552	+ 445	+ 330
Dec	+1,070	+ 176	+ 184
1982			
Jan	+1,775	+1,337	+1,476
Feb	+1,976	+ 836	- 5

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Bejam (I)	114.5(97.73)	5.76(4.51)	3.39(2.66)	1.2(0.9a)	—	—(2.06a)
Britannia Arrow(F)	127.3(76.12)	4.17(2.86)	4 03(3.16)	0.8(1.0)	24/5	1.5(1.0)
GKN(F)	1,855(1,923)	34.6(1.2b)	—(—)	4(4)	8/5	8(8)
James Fisher(F)	16.53(14.52)	3 93(3 05)	16.24(12.6)	1.5(1.15)	—	2.65(2.15)
A & J Mucklow	—(—)	2.33(1.8)	3.6(2.96)	2(1 88)	1/7	—(3.88)
Hall Eng.(F)	90.5(102.19)	6.02(7.06)	36.25(41.79)	4.2(4.2)	7/5	7.6(7.6)
H. of Lerose(F)	14.7(15.8)	1.61(1.57)	16 2(15.5)	4.6(4)	14/6	6.6(6)
KCA Drilling(F)	26.9(16.8)	5 8(3.5)	7 5(—)	1.87(—)	—	1.87(—)
L'pool Post(F)	62.5(49.3)	3 86(1.54)	18.4(10.2)	6.5(6.03)	30/4	10.2(9.5)
Pressac(I)	4.93(3.74)	0.16(0.11b)	0.74(1.2b)	0.35(0.35)	20/5	—(1.1
Sale Tilney(F)	55.1(64.39)	1.97(1.93)	34.2(30.8)	4.25(4)	—	8(7.5)
Sedgwick(F)	168.8(135 1)	56.4(41.5)	13.4(10.1)	3.75(3)	22/4	6(5)
Sharpe & Fisher(F)	27.04(25.98)	1.15(1.39)	4.8(4.7)	1.2.(1.2)	28/5	1.8(1.8)
Supra(F)	9.67(9.51)	0.65(0.42)	3.64(2.71)	1.2(1.2)	—	2(2)
F W Thorpe(I)	2.24(2.01)	0.29(0.27)	4.6(4.3)	1 05(1)	13/5	—(2.45)
Streetly(F)	402(345.7)	17.2(18.2)	15.51(26.12)	23/4	10.5(10 5)	

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Adjusted for scrip issue; b=Loss.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Sony Corporation's consolidated net income rose 4.9 per cent in the first quarter ended January 31, to a first-quarter record 20,905m yen (£47.5m), up from 19,927m yen a year earlier. Sales also posted a first-quarter record, rising 4.5 per cent to 272,986m yen from 261,157m yen. For all of fiscal 1982, Sony predicted a consolidated sales rise of between 10 per cent and 15 per cent above the fiscal 1981 level.

Order inflow to Siemens AG rose 11 per cent to Dm17,500m (£4,032.2m) in the first five months of the year started October 1, 1981 from the year-earlier period. Foreign orders continued to underpin overall order growth, rising 22 per cent in the fist five months compared to a 3 per cent fall in domestic demand.

Storage Technology Corporation, United States computer maker, has predicted profit to be at least 50 per cent higher than a year earlier. Profit for the quarter ending March 26 should be at least $18m (£9.83m), compared with a net income of $11,4m for the year earlier period.

Australian National Industries anounced a 27 per cent increase in net profits after tax for the seven months to January 1982, compared with the corresponding period a year earlier. Sales for the same period were ahead of last year by 26 per cent to A$302.5m.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade was very steady.—Afternoon.-Higher grade cash, £847-848; three months, £876.50-877.00. Sales: 11,400 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £845-845.50; three months, £873-874. Sales: nil tonnes. Morning.—Higher grade cash, £841-42.00; three months, £869.50-70.00. Settlement, £842.00. Sales. 4,950 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £839-39; three months, £865-66.00. Settlement, £839.00. Sales: 825 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin was steadier at yesterday's close.—Afternoon.—Standard cash. £7,200-7,210 a tonne; three months, £7,398-7,400. Sales, 445 tonnes. High grade, cash, £7,200-7,210; three months, £7,400-7,420. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £7,160-70; three months, £7,355-65. Settlement, £7,170. Sales, 885 tonnes. High grade, cash, £7,160-70; three months, £7,370-90. Settlement, £7,170. Sales, 10 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M30.36 a picul.

LEAD was steady at the lower levels.—Afternoon.—Cash £341-345 per tonne; three months £349-350. Sales, 1,850 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £344-45; three months £349-50 00. Settlement £345.00. Sales. 3,875 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.— Afternoon.— Cash £443-445 per tonne, three months £449-450. Sales, 2,425 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £442-42.50; three months £447.50-48.00. Settlement, £442.50. Sales. 3,650 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £174 50 ($316.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was steady, but quiet. — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot, 393.80p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 713.00); three months, 406.30p (738.30c), six months, 418.60p (763.70c); one year, 447.00p (820.50p). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon. — Cash, 397-398p; three months, 409.5-410p. Sales. 14 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash 394-95p; three months, 407-407.1p. Settlement, 395.0p. Sales, 48 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £577.50-578 per tonne; three months, £600.50-601. Sales, 2,525 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £576-76.50; three months, £599-99.50. Settlement, £576 50. Sales, 3,650 tonnes

NICKEL was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £3145-3150 per tonne; three months, £3172-3175. Sales, 174 tonnes. Morning — Cash, £3145-55; three months, £3171-75. Settlement, £3155. Sales, 204 tonnes

RUBBER (pence per kilo): April, 50.50-51.00; May, 51.50-51.80; April/June, 51.70-51 90; July/Sept, 55.60-55 70; Oct/Dec, 57.30-57.40; Jan/March, 59 50-59.60; April/June, 61.60-62.00; July/Sept, 63.60-64 00; Oct/Dec, 65.70-66 00 Sales: 311 lots at 15 tonnes each, including 10 kerbs.

COFFEE. — **ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): March, 1415-1420, May, 1228-1230, July, 1170-1172; Sept, 1149-1150; Nov, 1135-1136; Jan, 1135-1140; March, 1122-1130. Sales: 4,096 lots, including 128 options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).— March 1094-1098; May 1076-1077; July 1105-1106; Sept 1126-1128; Dec 1155-1157; March 1175-1177; May 1191-1194. Sales: 2,511 lots. ICCO prices: Daily price for March 16, 89.53c. Indicator 5-day average price for March 17, 92.51c. Daily price for March 17, 88.55c. Indicator 5-day average pric for March 18, 91.38c. (US cents per lb.)

MAIZE. — US-French unquoted S. Africa white — yellow. April May £79.00.

BARLEY. — English feed fob: March £112.50; Aug £104 75; Sep £106.00 sellers east coast. All cif U K unless stated.

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 18: GB: Cattle, 102.04p per kg lw (+0.61). UK: Sheep, 218.43p per kg est d c w (+6.93). GB: Pigs, 80.47p per kg lw (+0.26). England and Wales: Cattle nos down 9.3 per cent, ave. price, 101.92p (+1.06). Sheep nos up 5.3 per cent, ave. price, 222.74p (+7 24). Pig nos up 10.6 per cent, ave. price, 80 47p (+0.26). Scotland: Cattle nos down 19 8 per cent, ave. price, 102.39p (-0.52). Sheep nos down 11.6 per cent, ave. price, 208.27p (+4.36).

WALL STREET

New York, March 18 — Stocks finished strong after rising steadily for most of the afternoon in heavy trading.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 9.42 points to 805.27 its best level of the day. Advancing issues were 5-to-2 ahead of declines. Volume rose to 54.5 million shares from 48.9 million yesterday.

Another encouraging economic statistic came out of Washington in the form of a 0.5 per cent gain in personal income in February while personal consumption expenditures were up 0.8 per cent.

	Mar 18	Mar 17
Allied Chem	33¼	32¾
Allied Stores	28	28¾
Allis Chalmers	12⅞	12½
Alcoa	24¼	23⅝
Amax Inc	27⅜	26¼
Amerada Hess	18⅛	16⅝
Am Airlines	14⅝	14¼
Am Brands	39¼	38⅞
Am Broadcast	30	29¼
Am Can	27	28⅝
Am Cyanamid	25⅛	25⅞
Am Elec Power	17⅝	17
Am Home	34⅝	33⅞
Am Motors	3⅝	3¼
Am Nat Res	32¾	32⅞
Am Standard	27½	26⅞
Am Telephone	56¾	57
AMF Inc	17½	17⅛
Armco Steel	22½	22¼
Asarco	20¼	18⅝
Ashland Oil	21⅝	22¼
Atlntic Richfield	36⅛	35⅞
Avco	14⅝	14⅝
Avon Products	23⅜	23¼
Bankers Tst NY	31⅛	30¼
Bank of America	17⅞	17½
Bank of NY	39½	39
Beatrice Foods	18⅛	18¼
Bendix	51½	50
Bethlehem Steel	20⅞	20½
Boeing	18⅝	18⅞
Boise Cascade	28⅞	28¼
Borden	31	31⅛
Borg Warner	23¼	22½
Bristol Myers	54¼	52⅝
BP	20⅛	20
Burlington Ind	19	19¼
Burlington Nthn	43⅛	43⅞
Burroughs	33⅜	32⅝
Campbell Soup	33⅛	31⅞
Canadian Pacific	24⅝	34⅝
Caterpillar	48¼	47⅝
Celanese	51	52¼
Central Soya	10¼	10⅝
Chase Manhat	55	54¼
Chem Bank NY	50⅞	51
Chrysler	4⅞	4½
Citicorp	25⅞	24⅝
Cities Service	26⅜	26⅞
Clark Equip	23¼	23⅞
Coca Cola	31½	31½
Colgate	18⅛	17¾
CBS	37½	36¼
Columbia Gas	29¼	28¼
Combustion Eng	26⅜	26
Comwlth Edison	20¼	20½
Cons Edison	34⅝	34½
Cons Foods	32	32⅝
Cons Power	17⅝	17¼
Continental Grp	30¼	30
Control Data	30⅛	29⅞
Corning Glass	43⅜	43⅝
CPC Intnl	35⅞	36
Crane	24⅛	24
Crocker Int	27⅝	27¼
Crown Zeller	23¼	22⅝
Dart & Kraft	50	49½
Deere	31⅛	31¼
Delta Air	31⅞	30⅞
Detroit Edison	11⅛	11⅛
Disney	51½	50
Dow Chemical	22⅝	22
Dresser Ind	23⅛	24
Duke Power	22⅝	22½
Du Pont	33⅝	32⅞
Eastern Air	6	6
Eastman Kodak	68½	68
Eaton Corp	27¼	27¼
El Paso Nat Gas	24	23⅝
Equitable Life	10⅞	10⅝
Esmark	46⅝	43⅝
Evans P. D.	12⅝	12⅝
Exxon Corp	29	29
Fed Dept Stores	41½	40½
Firestone	10⅝	10¼
Fst Chicago	17⅝	17⅝
Fst Intrst Bncp	29½	30

	Mar 18	Mar 17
Fst Nat Boston	39¼	40⅝
Fst Penn Corp	2⅝	2⅝
Ford	19⅝	19⅞
GAF Corp	8⅝	8⅞
Gen Dynamics	22	20⅝
Gen Electric	60⅛	58¼
Gen Foods	33⅞	33¼
Gen Mills	37⅝	36½
Gen Motors	38⅝	38⅝
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅝	4⅝
Gen Tel Elec	28⅝	29⅞
Gen Tire	18⅛	18⅛
Genesco	4⅝	4⅝
Georgia Pacific	15⅝	15¼
Getty Oil	46¼	46
Gillette	33⅞	33¼
Goodrich	18½	19⅛
Goodyear	21	20⅞
Gould Inc	21⅛	21½
Grace	35⅛	35⅞
Gt Atlic & Pacific	5	4⅞
Greyhound	13⅞	13⅝
Grumman Corp	23⅝	22⅞
Gulf Oil	31¼	31⅞
Gulf & West	15⅞	15¼
Heinz H. J.	28⅛	28⅞
Hercules	18⅞	18½
Honeywell	67½	65
IC Inds	28⅛	28¼
Ingersoll	46⅝	44¼
Inland Steel	21¼	21¼
IBM	57⅞	57⅞
Int Harvester	5⅞	5⅞
INCO	11⅝	11½
Int Paper	33⅞	33¼
Int Tel Tel	24⅝	25¼
Irving Bank	40⅛	39¼
Jewel Co	31⅛	31
Jim Walter	16⅝	16¼
Johnson & John	35¼	34¼
Kaiser Alumin	14¼	14⅞
Kerr McGee	28¼	27⅝
Kimberly Clark	62	61¼
K Mart	17⅝	17⅞
Kroger	28¼	27⅝
L.T.V. Corp	14	13⅞
Litton	47	45⅞
Lockheed	48	49
Lucky Stores	13½	13⅝
Manuf Hanover	31⅛	31¼
Manville Cp	14	14
Mapco	26⅝	28½
Marathon Oil	75⅞	78⅝
Marine Midland	22	22
Martin Marietta	28¼	27⅞
McDonnell	32⅛	31
Mead	19⅝	20
Merck	73¼	71½
Minnesota Mng	50⅛	49⅝
Mobil Oil	23⅞	23½
Monsanto	62	61⅞
Morgan J. P.	51⅞	52¼
Motorola	55⅛	53¼
NCR Corp	42⅞	41⅞
NL Industries	25	23⅞
Nabisco	31¼	31⅞
Nat Distillers	21½	21½
Nat Med Ent	13⅝	12⅝
Nat Steel	19	18⅛
Norfolk West	45⅞	44⅝
NW Bancorp	21¼	21¼
Norton Simon	19⅝	18⅝
Occidental Pet	19⅝	19¼
Ogden	24⅞	24½
Olin Corp	18¼	18⅛
Owens-Illinois	24¼	24⅝
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅝	21⅝
Pan Am	3	2⅞
Penney J. C.	33½	32¼
Pennzoil	36½	34
Pepsico	34⅛	33
Pfizer	52⅛	50¼
Phelps Dodge	23⅝	22¼
Philip Morris	48½	48¾
Phillips Petrol	30¼	29½
Polaroid	18½	18
PPG Ind	31½	32

	Mar 18	Mar 17
Proctor Gamble	79½	78¾
Pub Ser El & Gas	19½	19⅝
Raytheon	31⅞	29⅝
RCA Corp	21⅝	20⅞
Republic Steel	21⅛	21⅞
Reynolds Ind	45⅝	44⅝
Reynolds Metal	19¼	19¼
Rockwell Int	27⅞	27⅞
Royal Dutch	31½	30⅝
Safeways	28⅝	28⅝
St Regis Paper	26	26
Santa Fe Ind	14	13⅝
SCM	22¼	21½
Schlumberger	43⅞	42⅞
Scott Paper	15¼	15⅛
Seagram	49⅝	48⅝
Sears Roebuck	18⅛	17⅝
Shell Oil	32⅞	32½
Shell Trans	25¼	25⅝
Signal Co	21	21⅛
Singer	13⅞	13⅝
Sony	12⅝	12⅝
Sth Cal Edison	31¼	31¼
Southern Pacific	32⅝	32⅝
Southern Rly	85⅞	84
Sperry Corp	27¼	28¼
Std Oil Califnia	33¼	32⅝
Std Oil Indiana	37⅝	37⅞
Std Oil Ohio	33¼	33⅞
Sterling Drug	24⅞	24
Stevens J. P.	14⅝	14⅛
Sun Comp	31⅛	32¼
Teledyne	116⅝	113¼
Tenneco	26⅝	25⅝
Texaco	30⅝	30⅝
Texas East Corp	42	41⅝
Texas Inst	78⅝	78⅝
Texas Utilities	21⅝	21¼
Textron	21½	21
TWA	20⅝	20⅞
Travelers Corp	48⅝	47⅞
TRW Inc	46½	45¼
UAL Inc	18½	18
Union Carbide	43⅞	43½
Union Oil Calif	29¼	30⅛
Un Pacific Corp	36⅛	35¼
Uniroyal	7⅛	7
United Brands	9	8⅛
US Industries	8	8
US Steel	22⅛	22⅞
Utd Technol	32⅝	31⅞
Wachovia	22¼	22½
Warner Lambert	23⅛	22⅞
Wells Fargo	23½	21½
Westnghse Elec	23⅝	23¼
Weyerhauser	26⅛	25¼
Whirlpool	25⅜	25¼
Woolworth	17⅝	17⅞
Xerox Corp	36¼	35⅞
Zenith	13½	13

Canadian Prices

	Mar 18	Mar 17
Abitibi	19½	19⅞
Alcan Alumin	22⅝	22⅝
Algoma Steel	33¼	33
Bell Telephone	18	17⅝
Cominco	47¼	46¼
Cons Bathurst	15⅛	14⅝
Gulf Oil	11⅞	11⅞
Hawker/Sid Can	11⅞	11⅝
Hudson Bay Mln	16¼	16⅛
Hudson Bay Oil	48	48
Imasco	41½	41½
Imperial Oil	20⅝	20⅝
Int Pipe	15⅞	15
Mass.-Fergsn	2⅞	2⅞
Royal Trust	13½	13⅞
Seagram	60½	59
Steel Co	23⅝	23¼
Thomson N 'A'	23¼	23¼
Walker Hiram	15¼	14⅝
WCT	13⅝	13½

*Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

More than a fleeting success

The Bibby Line, the oldest surviving independent British shipping company, is celebrating its 175th anniversary. At a civic reception in Liverpool last night, the chairman Derek Bibby, a great-great grandson of the founder, presented the Lord Mayor with a specially-written history of the firm which has through six generations sent more than 170 ships from its Merseyside headquarters to sail the trade routes of the world.

The earliest sailing vessels, including several captured from the French during the Napoleonic wars, ferried pig iron, while the latest are diesel-powered super-tankers carrying liquid gas and oil. In between have been cargo and passenger ships of almost every kind, including the Somersetshire, a hospital ship torpedoed in 1942, reboarded and saved by her crew. She continued in service until 1948.

John Bibby, founder of the Bibby Line

Withdrawal from the passenger trade come in 1965, and lay-ups became necessary from 1977 as freight markets slackened. The past year has been on of consolidation. But, Mr Bibby says, the company "has sufficient resources to see itself through the coming difficult months or even years, and is already looking forward to celebrating its bicentenary".

Geoffrey McLean is waiting for the results of an unusual interview in which candidates for a job in his gift interviewed him and not the other way round.

McLean is the chairman of the Midland Study Centre for the Building Team, a unit at Birmingham Poly which gives mid-career training to people in the building trade.

John Kirwan, the founder-director after three years is himself doing a career switch and returning to architecture. Since McLean and the centre have only £9,000 to offer in salary and office costs McLean thought it better to have candidates interview him and then to go away and decide whether or not they wanted the job.

There was a two-hour question and answer session, and said McLean, there are 12 people considering whether the job will get the applicants rather than the other way around.

Oil companies' pollution risk

Insurance persons of the world unite in London next month when Gordon Shaw is bringing together about 1,000 of them in the biggest insurance function yet to take place in the capital — the International Congress in Insurance Law.

Shaw, congress director and arbitrator in insurance disputes, says that the juicy part of the five-day congress which begins on April 19 is the meeting of the working group on pollution on insurance.

This is headed by Ambrose Kelly, chairman of the Chicago-based Pollution Liability Insurance Association, which is funded by the American Bar Foundation.

Says Shaw unless world governments start listening to the working group and lay down the law on lead content in petrol, oil companies risk claims "far beyond the reach of ordinary polices."

● *Harrods goes east this autumn, when it opens a small shop within the Mitsukoshi department store in Tokyo — the first time that its merchandise has been offered in a major overseas outlet. The arrangement follows several years' cooperation between the two groups and will involve Harrods' own-label goods exclusively. Mr Aleck Craddock, Harrods' chairman and managing director, will visit Japan in May to complete plans. "This is a most exciting development," he says, "We are delighted to be associated with Mitsukoshi in this unique way."*

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr John R Torell III has been elected president of Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company. Mr Taylor and Mr Torell, formerly vice-chairmen of the organisations, succeed Mr John F McGillicuddy who has been president of both.

Mr Paul C Button, Mr D Noel Healy and Mr Peter V Reed have been appointed assistant directors of merchant bankers, Charterhouse Japhet.

Mr John A Bogardus Jr, Mr Richard E Lynn and Mr Ian H [illegible] have joined the board of [illegible]owden Group.

Peter Wilson-Smith and Peter Hill

Stone-Platt collapse: the banks finally lose patience

The collapse of textile machinery and engineering company Stone-Platt has occasioned a furious row of a kind rarely seen in the City. Publicly those involved in the last ditch attempts to bring Stone-Platt back from the brink were expressing disappointment that the bank had not seen fit to go along with the latest rescue plan.

Privately the comments were much harsher. Indeed the City view is that the banks have let the side down badly.

"Frankly they ought to stick to lending money for houses. Industry would be better off going to the building societies for risk capital. I really do feel the banks would have acted differently six months ago." Thus spoke one City man yesterday as the recievers moved in at Stone-Platt bringing to a dismal end a rescue story which began in April 1980 when the company first ran into default on its bank loans and its bankers — under the watchful eye of the Bank of England — rallied round to save the situation.

Nearly two years, two rescues and several million pounds later, however, the banks' patience has finally run out. Desperate last minute talks over the weekend involving the Bank of England in the person of Mr David Walker, head of its industrial finance unit, could not save the day.

Ironically the key to the latest efforts to save the company was the sale of the Lancashire-based Platt Saco Lowell textile machinery division, the running sore which is largely responsible for the company's problems. It made trading losses of £2.97m in 1979 and £2.82m in 1980 because of the deep-seated problems in its Lancashire operations many of which arose from the appalling recession More than any other sector of the British enginerring industry, the textile machinery sector has suffered huge contraction and re-trenchment. In 1970 the industry employed 47,000 workers; nine years later is had shrunk to about 24,000 and is now under 20,000 with many of those spending much of their time om short time working.

Output has been falling in real terms steadily since 1975, and even more significantly British companies have seen their share of the home market being steadily eroded by imported machinery.

In 1980 (the latest year for which figures are available) the share of the domestic market held by British companies slumped to only 25 per cent — well short of the targets set by the industry itself.

For the 200 or so companies involved in manufacturing textile industry machinery, the bulk of them small and medium sized concerns, the principal pre-occupation in recent years has been simple survival. Research and development budgets have been cut to the bone and even funds made available by the Government under the Industry Act designed to stimulate development work on new machines have been underused.

High British interest rates and an exchange rate which has made exporting difficult, have compounded the industry's problems in overseas markets. West German and Swiss-made machinery is dominant while Japan, France, Italy and the United States are all providing stiff competition.

The foreign companies have been able to compete much more effectively in countries outside the EEC because of the greater strength of their domestic markets. Five years ago the British textile machinery companies were exporting on average about half of their production but last year the proportion dropped below 40 per cent.

HOW PROFITS SLUMPED

Pre-tax profits (£m)

1971	3.58
1972	4.65
1973	7.04
1974	7.89
1975	11.14
1976	15.61
1977	14.43
1978	9.51
1979	−2.94
1980	−5.54

A detailed analysis of the industry published last year by ICC Business Ratios noted that by the middle of 1980, the average return on investment for machinery builders was a mere 3.7 per cent with one in three of the industry's companies operating at a loss.

This was the background against which Stone-Platt had to battle for survival. Faced with the crippling cash drain of its Lancashire textile machinery operations, Stone-Platt embarked on a programme of redundancy and retrenchment accompanied by a series of major assets sales to cut borrowings. New management was also brought in. Mr Leslie Pincott, a man with a high reputation from his days in the oil industry and at the Price Commission, came in to rejuvenate the group.

In November 1980 the group sold off its pump division for £11.5m in a move which together with other smaller sales cut into borrowings by £14m. Early in 1981 there were further asset sales as the propeller business was disposed of. At the same time progress continued on reducing numbers employed in the main United Kingdom textile machiney operations in Lancashire.

The results for 1980, however, showed a net loss after provisions and disposal costs of £15m. Meanwhile borrowings remained high at £32m net compared with £40m of shareholders' funds.

So in March 1981 the City rallied round again with a £10m capital injection and new borrowing facilities totalling £40m. Finance Corporation for Industry, the medium term lending institution backed by the clearing banks and the Bank of England, and Equity Capital for Industry — owned by City institutions — stumped up between them £3m of the new capital while big shareholders like Prudential Assurance and M & G also increased their exposure to the group.

At the time Stone-Platt said that it could not make a forecast but hoped to break even in 1981. In the event this was proved far too optimistic.

Losses were up again in the first half of 1981 from £2.5m to £3.5m pre-tax, dashing any hope of break-even for 1981 as a whole and a further indication that all was not well came last October when Mr Robin Tavener, resigned suddenly from his post as chief executive.

The failure of the latest rescue attempt, which appears to have been necessitated by the greater-than-expected difficulties in turning round the Lancashire operations, together with a downturn in the United States textile machinery side, is open to different interpretations.

The view of ECI, FCI and the institutional shareholders was that if the sale of the Platt Saco Lowell textile machinery division — the main source of the groups problems — could have been succesfully carried out, that together with the property sales, it would have left the basis for a viable company.

Together these sales would have raised perhaps £15m and although there would have been a big write-down on the sale and gearing would have risen to about 120 per cent, the institutions had indicated they would lend support for another rights issue and restructuring.

However the assets being sold were security for the banks' loans and in order to carry on trading Stone-Platt would need to keep some of the cash it was raising. The banks, headed by Midland Bank, were not prepared to see their security whittled away and their risk increased. If the assets against which they had secured their loans were sold, the banks wanted the money back.

This view appears to have been unanimous among the main lending bankers, Midland, National Westminster, Barclays and its merchant bank subsidiary, and Williams & Glyn's.

It is likely that they have all made provisions already against their loans to Stone-Platt and it is thought that between them they now stand to lose £12m to £16m.

However the alternative as the banks appear to have seen it, was to increase their exposure to a company which even after the disposals would need at least £10m to £15m of new capital, and could at best project a break-even for 1982.

At the end of the day their losses might have been even greater. So faced with the refusal of the banks to raise money quickly from elsewhere, Stone-Platt was left with no alternative but to ask for a receiver to be appointed.

The surprising element in the collapsw of Stone-Platt is that the banks and institutions have disagreed so strongly on both its prospects and needs, if this latest rescue plan went through. Stone-Platt itself believed that only £5m to £7½m extra capital would have been required if the short term problems could be overcome — a view supported by the institutions involved but a far cry from the £10m to £15m the banks thought necessary.

Accouding to one of those involved in the rescue attempt: "I think the banks lost confidence when Stone-Platt did not meet its projections for 1981. But I don't think they ever really understood the very real difficulties for a company of this kind in trying to forecast its likely sales and profits."



Steve Macmillan

Mr Leslie Pincott Stone-Platt chairman yesterday: a distinguished career, but he was unable to arrest the decline

During the recession the banks have constantly emphasized how they bent over backwards to help borrowers who ran into difficulties and besides Stone-Platt there have been a number of other well-publicized rescue packages involving banks and City institutions. Weir Group, Thomas Borthwick and the computer company ICL have all been indulged by their bankers. But the Stone-Platt failure has raised new fears.

"What I hope it does not mean is that there is some sea change in the banks' attitude towards supporting industry", said one concerned fund manager yesterday.

Should the government have intervened? The Department of Industry has been in regular contact with the company — as with others in this troubled sector of the engineering industry — over the past twelve months. It was aware of the deepening crisis. But any rescue operation by Whiteball was firmly ruled out with the Government's belief that the receivership/manager route is to be preferred.

Although Stone-Platt is a significant force in the British textile machinery sector (indeed, perhaps the most significant) Whitehall is confident that the textile industry will continue to be able to obtain supplies of machinery, though the volume of imports may rise.

'Scientists have discovered organic molecules which can exist in two distinct states and which can be switched between them by applying a tiny electric charge. In theory an array of these molecules could store vast quantities of information in binary code'

Of microbes, microchips and men

TECHNOLOGY: AT THE FRONTIERS

By Clive Cookson

Two of the most glamorous fields of modern technology, microelectronics and biotechnology, are beginning to come together at the edges. Their fusion is creating the new science of bioelectronics, whose principal product, the "biochip", could have profound consequences for life in the next century.

Before getting too carried away, however, it is important to remember that bioelectronics is still an ill-defined subject in its infancy. Its practitioners are offbeat molecular biologists, genetic engineers, biochemists and computer scientists, working in small groups in a few university and corporate research labs on very different ideas.

There is no clear mainstream of research as in more mature fields, nor a reliable scientific grapevine to relay news of the most significant projects.

The word "biochip" has already acquired two quite different meanings. The first is an electronic chip built from conventional semiconductor materials but made to operate in a biological environment (for example inside the body) and/or to respond to biological stimuli.

The other, more visionary, biochip is a microprocessor or memory cell made out of organic molecules instead of silicon. In theory it could process data far more quickly and store information in much less space than a traditional chip. (Such a "biochip" occurs naturally, of course, as the human brain cell.)

Primitive biochips of the first type have been used experimentally as sensors to detect chemical concentrations. In these first generation devices, known as ChemFETs (for chemical field effect transistors), the silicon chip responds to tiny electric currents generated by chemical reactions.

A typical ChemFET is contained in a special membrane impregnated with a compound that reacts with the chemical to be measured. Inside the membrane is a sensing fluid that transmits the electric field changes to the chip. In the laboratory, cells of this sort have successfully detected small quantities of specific proteins, such as penicillin, but the electronic circuitry is not yet reliable enough for commercial application.

A variant measures the concentration of ions (atoms carrying an electric charge) which pass through the membrane and change the electric potential of the liquid surrounding the chip. Dr John Barker, of Warwick University, is developing a cell of this type to monitor the activity of the human heart.

Dr Barker's idea uses the minute variations in calcium ion concentrations that occur as the heart beats. The device will have a semi-permeable glass panel that lets in calcium but not other ions. It could be built either with a tiny radio transmitter to give an alarm if the heart was behaving abnormally, or with a pacemaker that would automatically stimulate a normal beat when irregularities occurred. The Warwick team believes that its biochip will be more convenient than the radio-controlled pacemaker with a conventional microprocessor, which hit the headlines last weekend when it was inserted into a man who had suffered 70 heart attacks.

Several research groups are now working to do away with the sensing fluid, by bonding enzyme directly onto the surface of an electronic chip. One approach is to coat the semiconductor in a so-called Langmuir-Blodgett film — an insulating layer of organic molecules whose thickness can be precisely controlled — and embed enzyme in it. Then, when the chemical you want to measure, say penicillin, binds to the enzyme, the latter changes shape and causes a transient electrical disturbance which the chip detects.

An alternative is to include whole bacteria, instead of enzymes, in the surface layer. These have the advantage of responding to a wider variety of chemicals, if you want a more general sensor. For example bacteria of the type found on sewage farms, which metabolize human waste, would be good candidates for incorporation in a biochip to measure river pollution near sewer outfalls.

The second type of biochip, made out of organic compounds rather than inorganic semiconductor, is under investigation in several American laboratories. Scientists have discovered organic molecules which can exist in two distinct states and which can be switched between them by applying a tiny electric charge. (In chemical terms, the effect depends in the switching of hydrogen bonds.)

In theory an array of these molecules could store vast quantities of information in binary code, like a conventional memory chip. But it would be millions of times more compact, because each molecule takes up far less space than a transistor on the most densely packed integrated circuit. Moreover the organic memory could be a three-dimensional array; the circuitry of today's chips runs in two dimensions only, over the surface of a semiconductor.

Actually constructing the array may be less difficult than it sounds, for the technology of Langmuir-Blodgett films should allow researchers to build up the layers one by one, with each molecule falling into the right place. Designing the structure and its communications with the outside world is a far harder task.

IBM scientists have been working on organic memories at its Yorktown Heights centre in New York — though the company denies that bioelectronics is a major research interest. It says that the presence of a small number of enthusiasts on the IBM research staff — notably Arieh Aviram who has patented one futuristic design for a biochip — has given the false impression that organic chips are a corporate goal.

However, a number of small American firms are working more openly on organic circuits. The Maryland town of Rockville, which is a centre of biotechnology research, seems to be the focus of activity. One Rockville company, EMV Associates, has patented a simple two-dimensional biochip based on layers of protein one molecule thick.

The National Science Foundation (the government agency responsible for basic research in the United States) recently gave EMV a grant to develop a biochip that could be connected directly to the central nervous system. It will have up to 100,000 electrodes on which embryonic nerve cells can be cultured.

One intended application is to implant the chip behind the eye and feed signals to the brain's visual cortex. But it must be emphasized that this seeing chip has not yet been developed.

The early biochips will be constructed in the laboratory and implanted into the body. But in the longer term molecular biologists are dreaming of using living cells to manufacture organic computers. Some foresee bacteria whose genes have been altered to synthesize the necessary protein molecules and assemble them into a chip.

Others believe that chip-assembling genes will eventually be inserted in human cells and make hundreds of microscopic copies of an organic computer inside our bodies. The biochips will be able to correct failures in the nervous system that are brought on by disease or aging. When that day comes — in the next century — we really will have intelligence at our fingertips.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds.	13½%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 10¼%. £10,000 up to £50,000 11% £50,000 and over 11½%.

Business Editor

Europeans cut interest rate

Down came German, Swiss and Dutch interest rates yesterday, and almost simultaneously. On the face of it, one could hardly have had more conclusive evidence of a concerted move by leading European countries to break the stranglehold of United States influence. Yet that may be an over-simplification.

The prime decision-makers in this instance were clearly the Germans. But the Germans may have been considering several things in choosing to act.

Obviously, they are keen to get interest rates steadily lower for domestic considerations; and the recent stability of the currency vis-a-vis the dollar, in the DM 2.35 to DM 2.40 range, is presumably seen as offering the right kind of exchange rate background.

But the Germans must also be acutely aware of the mounting pressure on the French and Belgian francs within the European Monetary System. Not only must there be considerable reluctance to have a fresh realignment within the EMS so soon after the last on February 22, but the Germans may be none too keen on the idea of a French devaluation in any case.

For the moment, then, lower German and Dutch interest rates, combined with rather higher French interest rates, may help to stabilize the situation. And doubtless the Germans will use the breathing space to quietly suggest that, the French reconsider their domestic policies.

Markets are not betting on this being any more than a breathing space, however. They see nothing to encourage them when they look at France: persisting high inflation, a large trade deficit, and a swelling budget deficit predicated — shades of the United States — on over-optimistic growth assumptions. The feeling is growing that the spring will bring a franc devaluation of, perhaps, 8 per cent, with the Belgian currency almost inevitably going with it.

Meanwhile, United Kingdom money markets appear slightly more relaxed than earlier in the week, though no-one sees the overall structure of rates coming up for any major reconsideration for some weeks yet. Yesterday's full banking figures for February confirmed that bank lending to the private sector had once again grown strongly, albeit that large back-tax payments will have played their part in swelling the increase to £1,976m.

The Bank of England Issue Department, incidentally, provided a further £969m of this lending as its portfolio of eligible bills continued to grow. That figure will have expanded still further since; and the figure for outstanding sale and repurchase agreements with the discount houses has snowballed to more than £1,900m.

GKN
A firm base

The recession has impinged on GKN as much as anyone, forcing the company into a number of harsh decisions. Although there is further rationalization to come, the group does at least seem to be more on top of its problems than a number of other large industrial groups.

Certainly, second-half profits last year were appreciably better than the City had anticipated, with trading profits (before redundancy and rationalization costs) pushing up from £34.1m in the opening six months to £60.1m. That left a full-year pre-tax profit of £34.6m against a pre-tax loss of £1.2m in 1980.

The weighting of taxable profits in the overseas operations has left the overall after-tax position at little better than break-even.

For the present year GKN sees little improvement for the first six months. In Britain the group is resting on its cost-cutting achievements until volume picks up significantly, while it is obviously going to be a very difficult half year for the American operation.

With the prospect of some pick-up in world economic activity in the second half, however, GKN could start to edge forward faster.

Meanwhile, year-end borrowings were slightly down and though GKN might still be a rights issue candidate later this year, it remains to be seen what cash the group will raise through further divestments. With the shares up 3p to 162p, the capitalization is £268m and the yeld 7.1 per cent.

The Economy
Where next?

The composite index of economic indicators, published yesterday, will go some way to restoring the Government's confidence in a recovery, following the recent worryingly depressed level of industrial production.

The "longer leading" index, which predicts the ups and downs of the economy about 12 months ahead, has been rising steadily since the autumn and showed a particularly marked rise last month.

However, the reading given by this index is not as unambiguously bullish as it might at first appear.

To begin with the strong rise in February was based on only two of the five component indicators — interest rates were coming down and share prices were going up. Secondly, the index has been wobbling about since last spring when, after an earlier surge, it suddenly began to slide. It then continued to decline during the summer and early autumn.

If this is an accurate guide to the future trend of the economy we are likely to see an unnerving break in the recovery before it resumes its momentum. On the other hand, experience suggests that a series of wobbles on the index can be the prelude to a sharp change in direction.

In this case, the recovery can be expected to be weak and short-lived. This would certainly square with some other evidence.

The separate "coincident" index which is supposed to show the stage of the business cycle reached at present, has remained flat since the end of last summer. This is probably consistent with what has been happening to industrial production. It was, of course, atrocious weather and strikes which helped depress industrial output recently, according to the Government. Unfortunately these are not factors that the longer leading index is able to predict.

Stone-Platt
Lessons

The row which has broken out between institutional investors and the banks about the decision to pull the rug from under Stone-Platt is unprecedented. Inevitably.

That criticism may or may not be justified. It is difficult for those not privy to the facts to make a judgement. It is as well to remember, of course that the institutional shareholders have plenty of reasons to scream: they, as well as the banks, have a lot to lose.

Are there any immediate lessons to be drawn? One might be that the general recession has moved to a stage where there is less desire to bend over backwards to keep companies afloat. At the same time however, it has probably become clearer that for certain industries long-term prospects now look no better than they did a year or so ago.

Finally, one comes back to the question of whether banks and other institutions can be expected to give long enough cash flow relief to ailing companies without the government sharing at least part of the risk.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
128	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	128	+2	10.0	7.8	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	198	+1	9.7	4.9	9.6	11.7
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	107	—	15.7	14.7	—	—
104	63	Deborah Services	63	—	6.0	9.5	3.1	5.9
131	97	Frank Horsell	127	—	6.4	5.0	11.4	23.5
83	39	Frederick Parker	81	+1	6.4	7.9	4.1	7.9
78	46	George Blair	53	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prec Castings	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	109	—	15.7	14.4	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130	108	James Burrough	113	—	8.7	7.7	8.2	10.4
334	248	Robert Jenkins	248	—	31.3	12.6	3.4	8.8
63	51	Scruttons "A"	63	—	5.3	8.4	9.7	9.0
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13½	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	79	—	15.0	19.0	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	+1	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	212	W. S. Yeates	228	+2	13.1	5.7	4.3	8.8

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

Stock Exchange Prices

Bear squeeze

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 15. Dealings End, March 26. §Contango Day, March 29. Settlement Day, April 5.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1981/82 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS								
98⅞	93²³⁄₁₆	Treas	8¼%	1982	98⅝	..	8.365	13.102
96¼	93¹³⁄₁₆	Exch	9¼%	1983	98	• ..	9.439	13.410
96⅞	92⅞	Exch	8½%	1983	96⅞	..	9.055	13.341
94	84⅞	Exch	3%	1983	92	..	3.260	12.461
99⁷⁄₁₆	95⅛	Treas.	12%	1983	98¾	+⅛	12.151	13.381
96⅞	90¼	Treas	9½%	1983	97¼	+⅛	9.611	12.474
101¹³⁄₁₆	95⅞	Exch	13½%	1983	99¾	+⅛	13.532	13.642
96	89⅛	Exch	10%	1983	95⅜	+⅛	10.485	13.054
90½	83½	Fund	5½%	1982-84	90	..	6.110	11.739
97¾	90⅛	Exch	11¼%	1984	96½	+⅛	11.642	13.289
103⁹⁄₁₆	95⅛	Exch	14%	1984	100⅝	..	13.913	13.641
85	77¼	Exch	3%	1984	84½	+¼	3.549	10.963
98⁷⁄₁₆	90⅝	Treas	12%	1984	96¾	• ..	12.403	13.535
107¹³⁄₁₆	95½	Treas	16%	1985	102⅞	+⅛	14.580	13.752
99⅛	85⅞	Exch Cv	12%	1985	96⅛	•+⅛	12.484	13.599
78⅛	71	Treas	3%	1985	77⅜	..	3.839	11.592
95⁵⁄₁₆	85¼	Treas	11½%	1985	93⅝	+⅛	12.284	13.955
95¼	87⅜	Exch	12¼%	1985	94⅞	+⅛	12.910	14.062
97⅞	84⅞	Exch	11¾%	1986	93½	+¼	12.568	13.940
74¼	65¼	Treas	3%	1986	73	..	4.109	11.371
97⅛	84⅝	Treas	12%	1986	93½	+⅛	12.832	14.072
88⅝	75⅝	Treas	8½%	1984-86	86½	..	9.827	12.658
100	92	Exch	14%	1986	99¼	+⅛	14.105	14.211
102¼	89⅞	Exch	13¼%	1987	97⅞	+¼	13.554	13.887
MEDIUMS								
87¼	71¼	Fund	6½%	1985-87	81	+⅛	8.280	12.295
99⅝	81½	Treas	12%	1987	96⅝	+⅛	13.017	14.099
82	72½	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	79⅞	+⅛	9.846	13.068

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	41	..	8.8	21.4	..
34½	29	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	..
34	20	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	150	4.5	12.4
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	175	+5	11.9	6.8	11.1
158	93	Milford Docks	139	..	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	130	..	10.0	7.7	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	..	500	15.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
A and G Sec Elect 5p Ord (80a)	85+1
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	192+1
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	73
City Site 25p Ord (35a)	30
Computer and Systems Eng 20p Ord (225)	230+2
Cussins Property Group 20p Ord (82)	91
Equipu 10p Ord (80a)	90
Exchequer 13¼% 'A' 1987 (j)	£30+¼
Fleet Holdings 20p Ord	23+½
Good Relations Group 10p Ord (61a)	75
Hardanger Properties 10p Ord (100a)	10
Hayters £1 Ord (150a)	158
Lee Valley Water 9½% Red Pf 1989 (†b)	£11¼
Newmarket Co 1981) Ltd $0.05 (£3.05)	218-7
Oceonics 10p Ord (130a)	145
Osprey Assets 25p Ord	30
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	24¾
Peak Holdings 7p Ord	13½
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	139
Television South West 5p Ord	16
Treasury 3% 1987	£60¾
Treasury 2½% Index Linked 2011 (+)	£102

RIGHTS ISSUES — Latest date of renun.

First Castle Electronic (30‡) May 5 — 25 prem+3

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b. £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £35 paid. j £56 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 18	Market rates (close) March 18	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8060-1.8130	$1.8095-1.8105	0.18-0.23c disc	0.65-0.75c disc
Montreal	$2.1950-2.2010	$2.1975-2.1985	0.35-0.45c disc	1.20-1.30c disc
Amsterdam	4.71-4.75fl	4.72¾-4.73¾fl	2-1½c prem	5⅞-5⅛c prem
Brussels	80.30-81.00f	80.75-80.90f	35-65c disc	75-105c disc
Copenhagen	14.46-14.55k	14.50-14.51k	140-210ore disc	640-775ore disc
Dublin	1.2160-1.2340p	1.2320-1.2330p	64-75p disc	175-200p disc
Frankfurt	4.28-4.31½m	4.29½-4.30½m	1¾-1½pf prem	4⅞-4⅝pf prem
Lisbon	126.00-127.25e	126.60-126.90e	65-190c disc	200-420c disc
Madrid	188.70-189.20p	188.85-189.05p	20-45c disc	115-130c disc
Milan	2334-2361lr	2359-2361lr	19-22lr disc	55-58lr disc
Oslo	10.87-10.91k	10.88¼-10.89¼k	80-165ore disc	435-225ore disc
Paris	11.14-11.23f	11.21½-11.22½f	12¾-14¼c disc	24½-27½c disc
Stockholm	10.53-10.56k	10.56-10.57k	80-10ore prem	170-100ore prem
Tokyo	435-441y	437½-438½y	2.70-2.35y prem	7.35-7.05y prem
Vienna	30.05-30.25sch	30.18-30.23sch	15-11gro prem	35-29gro prem
Zurich	3.40-3.43f	3.41-3.42f	2½-2c prem	6⅞-6¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 91.1 up 0.4.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13 Low 12

Week Fixed: 13

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12²³⁄₃₂	2 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆
3 months	12½	3 months	12⁷⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13³⁄₃₂-13¹⁄₃₂	1 month	13⅝
2 months	12²⁹⁄₁₆-12¾	2 months	13⁵⁄₁₆
3 months	12⅝-12½	3 months	13⅛
6 months	12½-12⁷⁄₁₆	6 months	13¹⁄₁₆

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14½-14¼	7 months	13⅞-13⅝
2 months	14¼-14	8 months	13⅞-13⅝
3 months	14⅛-13⅞	9 months	13¾-13½
4 months	13⅞-13⅝	10 months	13¾-13½
5 months	13⅞-13⅝	11 months	13¾-13½
6 months	13⅞-13⅝	12 months	13⅝-13⅜

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	13²³⁄₁₆-13²¹⁄₁₆	6 months	13⅝-13⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	13⅝-13⁷⁄₁₆	12 months	13⁷⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	13⅞	3 months	13¼
7 days	13⅞	6 months	13
1 month	13⅝	1 year	13½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 13¾-13⅝ Close 13¾

1 week	13¾-13⅝	6 months	13⅝-13½
1 month	13⅞-13²³⁄₁₆	9 months	13⅝-13½
3 months	13⅝-13½	12 months	13⅝-13½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 14⅛ 6 months 14⅛

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6990-1.7140
Bahrein	0.6785-0.6815
Finland	8.2325-8.2725
Greece	109.80-111.30
Hongkong	10.4885-10.5285
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5120-0.5160
Malaysia	4.1850-4.2150
Mexico	80.00-81.60
New Zealand	2.31-2.33
Saudi Arabia	6.1570-6.1870
Singapore	3.8130-3.8430
South Africa	1.8625-1.8775

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4680-1.4700
† Canada	1.2148-1.2150
Netherlands	2.6080-2.6120
Belgium	44.56-44.60
Denmark	8.0225-8.0275
West Germany	2.3740-2.3750
Portugal	70.10-70.30
Spain	104.25-104.35
Italy	1302.5-1304.5
Norway	6.0175-6.0225
France	6.1900-6.1950
Sweden	5.8350-5.8450
Japan	241.85-242.00
Austria	16.64-16.66
Switzerland	1.8840-1.8855

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8230-0.8232

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14½-15½; seven days, 14¹⁵⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆; one month, 14⅞-15¼; three months, 14⅞-15¼; six months, 14⅞-15⅛.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $322.40 (an ounce); pm, $320 close, $323.
Krugerrand (per coin): $332-334 (£183.5-184.5).

هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

English form may upset a plan

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Cape Town, March 18

The South African Cricket Union will be hoping for better crowds than in Johannesburg last weekend when the second of the three four-day matches between their own representatives eleven and the South African Breweries English XI begins tomorrow. In an attempt to attract relatively more people to the ground, there will be less television coverage than in Johannesburg, where, except on the Sunday, practically every ball was shown.

On the tour so far, the first of the one-day matches in Port Elizabeth produced a record crowd; the second of them, in Durban yesterday, drew 16,000, which was as many as anyone could remember there on a Wednesday. However, in Johannesburg a total of fifty thousand from the first of the four-day games was disappointing. On the first two days and the last a surplus of TV was thought to be partly responsible.

Hence the decision by the South African Cricket Union, to reduce the coverage. Television, being in its infancy here, is unable to isolate the city r state in which an event is taking place, as they can in Australia, while showing the whole of it farther afield. What will have done nothing to boost the Cae Town crowds is the poor showing of the England side, who, after giving a good account of themselves in Port Elazabeth, have been badly outplayed.

Tomorrow, at Newlands, they have about as good a chance of being able to rejoice in the setting as most a lion in the London Zoo. The fact that Procter, the South African captain, has had to pull out of the match because his rickety old knees are giving him trouble again, is unlikely to make much difference. He has been palpably unfit in the games that he has played. Even so, if the Englishmen are going to make runs anywhere it should be here. In this regard, Larkin's batting yesterday could lead to better things. Underwood, too, is likely to get more of a look in than he did in Johanneburg or will in Durban.

Although finance would be made available to them from South Africa, should any of the English players wish to sue the Test and County Cricket Board for restraint of trade, in the event of their being barred tomorrow from playing against India and Pakistan in England this summer, there is little chance of their taking advantage of it. Shocked though they may be by being ruled out of Test consideration remember they have done nothing they were not perfectly entitled, by law, to do — they would rather, I think, accept their punishment than challenge it. They would probably refer to sue the media than the TCCB.

Not much more than a month ago, from Adelaide, I wrote that only Capetown was as lovely a place for watching cricket. Yet here I am, back in the Cape, and beginning to wish that I wrote more about golf. In Durban this morning I strolled round a most beautiful course, watching the amateurs of South Africa (all white) and the Republic of China, without a political thought in their heads, enjoying each others' company.

No boycotts, no drunks, no dropped catches, no fatalities, no run-outs, resentment or regrets. Small wonder that Duncan Lindsay-Smith, one of the South African team, gave up playing first class cricket for Transvaal to concentrate on golf.

SOUTH AFRICA From: R S Cook, A Richards, P N Kirsten, R G Pollock, E B Rice, J Kourie, R V Jennings, S Roux, S T Jefferies, A P Van Er Bijl, D L Hobson, A P Kuiper.
SAB ENGLISH XI From: A Gooch (captain), G Boycott, W Larkins, D L Amiss, R A Woolmer, P Willey, P E Knott, C M Old, D L Underwood, M Hendrick, L B Taylor, J Lever, G. W Humpage, A Sidebottom.

Ian Callen, a medium-fast bowler who has played one Test for Australia and finished second in the averages for Victoria in the Sheffield Shield this season, has been engaged as professional by the Lancashire League club, East Lancashire.

Perth, March 18. — Geoff Millar, a Western Australian Sheffield Shield all-round cricketer, will play for Watsonians in Edinburgh this summer. —



Procter: a captain who has been brought to his knees

Sri Lanka well placed in spite of collapse

Faisalabad, March 18. —, Sri Lanka's attempt to force Pakistan to follow on in the second Test failed today, but with one day's play remaining the tourists are still in a strong position.

Despite a batting slump in their second innings Sri Lanka lead Pakistan by 311 runs with two wickets in band on a pitch which is starting to take appreciable turn.

Pakistan, replying to Sri Lanka's first innings total of 454, were precariously placed at 210 for eight when play resumed today — still 45 runs short of the follow-on mark. The wicket-keeper, Ashraf Ali, added only eight runs today before he was bowled for 58 but Rashid Khan and Tausif Ahmed highlighted the Sri Lankans' inexperience in Test cricket when they added 48 runs in a defiant last-wicket stand to steer Pakistan to their eventual total of 270.

Sri Lanka were also quickly in trouble in their second innings and only a gritty 56 from the opener Bahes Gunatilleke, held up te Pakistan attack up as the tourists crumbled to 127 for eight at close of play. Sri Lanka's first innings top scorers, Sidath Wettimuny (157) Roy Dias (98) and Ranjan Madugalle (91 not out) all fell cheaply to the home attack. Tahir Naqqash, helped by a strong breeze, gave Pakistan an early breakthrough when he had Wettimuny caught behind and dismissed Dias.

SRI LANKA: First Innings 454 (S Wettimuny 157, R L Dias 98, R S Madugalle 91 not out; Iqbal Qasim 6 for 141)

Second Innings

S Wettimuny, c Ashraf, B Tahir	3
† H M Gunatilleke b Qasim	56
R Dias C Mohsin b Tahir	7
R S Madugalle lbw b Qasim	12
*L R D Mendis run out	0
A Ranatunge c Ashraf b Tausif	2
M Ranasinghe c Miandad b Tausif	5
D S de Silva St Ashraf b Tausif	8
A L F de Mel not out	7
L W Kaluperuma not out	5
Extras	12
Total	127

G R A de Silva to bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-43, 3-82, 4-82, 5-86, 6-104, 7-114, 8-114.
BOWLING: Tahi, 10-3-36-2; Rashid, 1-0-4-0; Qasim, 27-9-44-2; Rizwan, 5-2-13-0; Tausif, 14-4-18-3.

PAKISTAN: FIRST INNINGS

Rizwan-Uz-Zaman b Ajit de Silva	36
Mohisn Kahn c Wettimuny b De Mel	12
Salim Malik b De Mel	23
*Jayed Miandad c Ranatunge b D S de Silva	18
Wasim Raja c Madugalle b D S de Silva	22
Haroon Rashid c De Mel b D S de Silva	25
† Ashraf Ali b Ranasinghe	58
Tahir Naqqash c De Mel b Ajit de Silva	1
Iqbal Qasim run out	5
Rashid Khan not out	43
Tausif Ahmed c Madugalle b D S de Silva	18
Extras (lb-1 nb-8)	9
Total	270

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-54, 3-83, 4-116, 5-124, 6-154, 7-156, 8-185, 9-222.
BOWLING: De Mel, 23-4-73-2; Ranasinghe, 7-1-23-1; D S de Silva, 31. 5-2-103-4; Ajit de Silva, 24-10-38-2; Kalumperuma, 6-0-24-0.

Tasmania club sued by Bedi

Sydney, March 18. — The former Indian cricket captain, Bishen Bedi, has issued a Supreme Court writ against a Tasmanian cricket club for alleged breach of contract. The writ was issued on March 12 in the Burnie Supreme Court against the Latrobe Municipal Cricket Club in northern Tasmania and three of its members.

The writ alleges that the former Northamptonshire spin bowler had a contract with the club for the 1981-82 cricket season worth £6,000, reasonable accommodation, the use of a car and return air fares to New Delhi

Howarth dreams of victory

From Peter Mc Farline, Christchurch, March 18

New Zealand go into the Third test match here tomorrow with an undeniable chance of securing their first series victory over Australia. New Zealand achieved only their second Test victory over Australia at Auckland on Tuesday and in the final match of the series need only a draw on the placid Lancaster Park wicket to clinch the series.

New Zealand's captain, Geoff Howarth, was empahatic today that his team would be seeking a win. A draw, he said, would be statisfactory but to think that way from the outset would enceurage a negative and potentially disastrous outlook in his side. The Lancaster park wicket is regarded as a batsman's dream and it will take an extrordinary effort by either side to bowl out the opposition twice. That will be the task of the Australian's who are determined not to become the first side to lose a series here.

Although teams will not be finalized until just before the toss, it appears probable that they will be unchanged from Auckland. This means New Zealand will take in four pace men Richard Hadlee, Gary Troup, Martin Snedden and Lance Cairns and Omit again the off-spinner, John Bracewell.

Australia will rely on the fast bowlers, Dennis Lillee, Jeff Thomson and Terry Alderman, and the off-spinner, Bruce Yardley. This test could well be Greg Chappell's last as captain. After a record-breaking 42 Tests at the helm, Chappell is unavailable for the Pa.kistan tour in September

BILLIARDS

Williams in front with 207 break

By Sydney Friskin

Rex Williams, of Stourbridge, made a break of 207, the highest so far in the tournament, in his attempt to regain the world professional billiards championship at Sutton Coldfield yesterday. He made it against Mark Wildman, of Peterborough, in the two-day final which ends today.

At the end of the first period of play, Williams led by 685 points to 362 with an unfinished break of 67. his break of 207 was made on his ninth visit to the table with an assortment of cannons and in—offs and an occasional pot red. It was helped along with the gentle touch and the controlled screw shot, and was a little different in character to the later break of 114 accelerated by the familiar pot-red-and-cannon sequence at the top of the table.

Up to the time Williams made the break of 207, Wildman was in front. The match started with Williams breaking off and leaving the red in baulk. Wildman, on his first visit, plalyed a superb cannon off the top cushiion and went on to make a break of 75. A later break of 76 helped him to reduce some of the leeway, but by the time the interval arrived Williams was scoring more fluently.

Wildman himself had shown his fighting qualities with a break of 203 in his semi-final match against Ray Edmunds.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND: R. Williams (Stourbridge) beat F. Davis (Chesterfield) 1,500-1,494; M. Wildman (Peterborough) beat R. Edmunds (Grimsby) 1,500-765.
FINAL: Williams leads Wildman 685-362. (Best breaks: Williams 83, 207, 86, 114; Wildman 75,53,76).

BOWLS

Scotland's win poses problems

A massive 85-shot victory by Scotland over Ireland set problems for both England and Wales in the women's indoor international series at Hartlepool yesterday. Wales then had to defeat England in the closing match of the round robin series to retain the title they have won for the past tow year. England, however, still had a slim chance of winning the championship, providing they beat Wales by 446 shots — an almost impossible task.

RESULTS: Ireland 75, Scotland 160 (Irish skips first): M Ross 17, J Frame 22; E Bell 11, J Henderson 27; N Gibson 19, M Lamont 13; D Fraser 11, M Ross 28; E Cameron 10, J Logan 37; K Turner 7, F Whyte 33.

Williams returns

The national hill climbing cycling champion, Jeff Williams, has resolved his differences with Britain's director of racing, Jim Hendry, and is in the team for the Sealink international, which starts in Ostend on April 19. Williams opted out of the Milk Race last year and was then banned from riding. Bob Downs leads the squad, which also includes Malcolm Elliott, Steve Lawrence, Steve Joughin and Joe Waugh.

GOLF

Nicklaus puts new course into perspective with acid touch

From John Ballantine, Jacksonville, Florida, March 18

Some discrimination about the apparent hazards of a new golf course must be exercised when assessing the ability or otherwise of modern dollar and fame-hungry professionals to play the strokes necessary to bring it to its knees.

The 6,857-yards Tournament Players course, designed by Pete Dye, on which 147 of the world's best players began their £272,000 championship here today, has been variously described by local critics as "Dante's Inferno," "Hell's Kitchen," "The Monster of Ponte Vedra," and other epithets for what is a pleasant enough looking spot on Florida's warm Atlantic coast just south of this city.

Today's conditions, at this notoriously windy place, were unusually calm, but judging from the early scores the weather will have to deteriorate rapidly before the end of the week if any hidden horrors are to be revealed. Jack Nicklaus delivered one of his occasional acid comments to put things into perspective: "The British weekend golfer would enjoy it because he's used to the elements they have here. The ordinary Amercan player is too used to too many simple situations."

Larry Nelson with five birdies in a typical neat and polished 67, and two less known professionals, Pat Lindsey, 29, of Ohio, and Skeeter Heath, 27, of Virginia, both with 68, pointed the way forward.

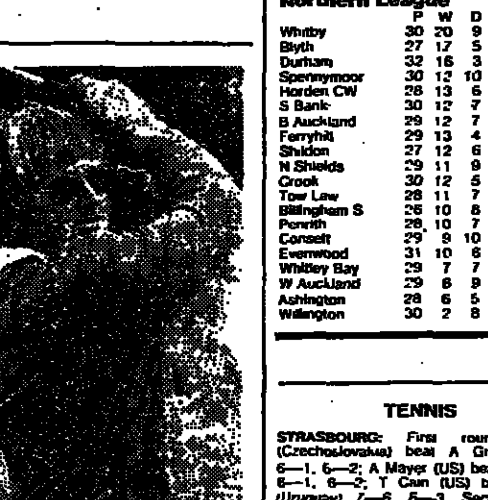
"As soon as I arrived for Tuesday's pro-am, I realized that the course was not the bear it had been made out to me to be," said Nelson, who thought he could have scored even lower. He pitched close for birdies at the sixth and seventh holes, hit the green at the long 11th in two, and chipped stiff at the long 16th for two more birdies.

Nelson circumnavigated the 132yd 17th, which has a green completely surrounded by water, and is reached via a causewav, hitting an eight iron to 40ft.

Nick Faldo, fresh and eager to play after his week's rest, and Peter Oosterhuis were out late, as was Severiano Ballesteros, who was teamed with last week's Inverrary winner Hale Irwin, and Jim Colbert.

EARLY SCORES: 67: L Nelson; 68: P Lindsey, S Heath; 70: T Watson, G Morgan, G Hallberg, D Tewell; 72: B Devlin (Australia), R Curl, B Jaeckel; 73: T Weiskopf, C Peete; 74: J Miller, B Kratzert; 75: B Crenshaw; 77: D Pohl; 78: L Thompson.





Barnes . . . dropped ball one club length clear

Cambridge have better links with past

By Nicholas Keith

Cambridge must be warm favourites to beat Oxford in the ninty-third university golf match, which begins at Humtstanton this morning. The Light Blues have a commanding lead in the seies, having won 51 times against Oxford's 36, with five halved.

Confidence in Cambridge is based on their team's experience and record. David Warden, their captain, has been able to pick six Blues — five of last years victorious side (Randall, Froggatt, Melville, Leigh and himself) plus Tickell.

Steve Thomas, the Oxford captain who was involved in a thrilling singles with Leigh over the Formby links last year, has only two other old Blues at his disposal — Butler and Morris. Oxford's results against clubs "have not been good," Thomas admitted.

Both camps have been practising hard at Hunstanton this week and Cambridge are well aware that anything can happen on a links.

Today's forsomes (Cambridte names first): P M Froggat (Belfast Institute and Clare) and R J H Randall (Millfield and St John's) v C Ramsay (RGS Newcastle and Wadham) and B D Livesey (Arnold and St Edmund); A G Edmond (Hymer's College and Trinity) and G S Melville (Barrow GS and Fitzwilliam) v S P Thomas (Manchester GS and Merton, capt.) and J G Clerk (Newcastle-under-Lyme HS and St Edmund Hall); D J Warden (Loughborough and Fitzwilliam, capt.) and S C K Tungden (Mairk Rutherford and Selwyn) v A A Barratt-Groene (Malvern and St Edmund Hall) and K R Morris (Aylesbury GS and keble); M R Puddy (Birkenhead and Magdelene) and R M Tickell (Solihull and St John's) v A C Hodson (Cufford and St Peter's) and S D K Witty (St Paul's and Balliol); J. C. Leigh Bolton and Clare) and N H Rogan (Liverpool Blue Coat School and Downing) v M R Butler (Bablake and St Edmund Hall) and I M Lewis (Christ's, Brecon and Jesus).

DINNER MATCH: Cambridge 2, Oxford 1. Results (Cambridge names first): C V Finley (Wolverhampton GS and St John's) and B G F Watson (Tiffin and St Catharine's) 4 and 3 N H Piatt (Warwick and Worcester) and R P Campbell (Falmouth and Pembroke). Singles: Watson lost to Campbell, 2—1; Finlay beat Platt, 2 up.

Anglo-Irish cause lost to the course jester

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

The Anglo-Scottish combination of Wilma Aitkin, a member of the Curtis Cup training team, and Angela Uzielli, Berkshire women's golf champion as though by right these days, won the Avia Watches foursomes tournament at the Berkshire club yesterday.

With two final rounds of 75 over the Red course and 73 over the Blue, they finished with 298, four strokes ahead of the Anglo-Irish partnership of Linda Bayman and Maureen Madill, winners two years ago. The Rawlings sisters from Wales were third on 308. The measure of the winners' excellence is that never before, since the tournament was inaugurated in 1966, has a score of less than 300 been recorded.

Mrs Uzielli, competing for the fifteenth time, played her full part, but she readily conceded that the petite Miss Aitken "made it all possible". The young Scot did, indeed, particularly play some superb pitch shots that left her partner a series of 10 to 12 footers. Only one went in, but Mrs Uzielli, from whatever distance, consistently left her partner with nothing more than a formal tap-in. There was only one exception, at the second, where three putts gave their opponents renewed heart after a grisly opening seven.

Mrs Bayman had thunder on her brow and, one would suspect, revenge in her heart as she slouched on to the second tee. She had charged the first putt a long way past and missed an inviting third.

They suffered an ever more telling seven at the eighth, since it surrendered three strokes to par. Mrs Bayman's bunker shot sailed over the green and into the trees and Miss Madill, completely stymiedd by a fir, could not bumble the ball clear.

After a four at the short tenth, Miss Madill described their golf as "like something out of Tom and Jerry". She then popped a painkiller into her mouth to pacify and aching wisdom tooth and stepped on to the 11th green to hole from all of 15 yards. Whether she was now under the sway of Tom and Jerry was not certain, but the evil influence struck again at the 14th. Mrs Bayman missed another 2ft putt for a six.

Since Mrs Uzielli and Miss Aitken by now were playing thoroughly consistent golf, the Anglo-Irish cause was as good as lost. Brilliant shots to the 13th and 14th greens by Miss Aitken, first with a nine iron and then a screaming five wood, reduced them both to birdies and carried them three strokes ahead. They hed their game together splendidly and Miss Aitken, appropriately, played the final master stroke, a putt of 25ft on the last (161 yds) after Mrs Uzielli had found the green with a five wood. Thus the winners came in 34, three under par.

Mrs Uzielli, the course jester, was so delighted that you might have thought she had won not a voucher worth £120 ("enough for a set of wood covers") but at least a general election. "Now for a big, big pint", she declared, making a bee-line for the bar. What a breath of fresh air she brings to this often too serious game of golf.

FINAL SCORES: 298: Mrs A Uzielli (Berks) and Miss W Aitken (Old Ranfurly) 77, 73, 75,73. 302: Mrs J E Bayman (Berks) and Miss M Madill (Portstewart) 72, 75, 77, 78. 308: Mrs V Thomas (Pennard) and Miss M Rawlings (Bargoed) 76, 74, 76, 82. 310: Mrs T Thomas (Wenvoe Castle) and Miss M McKenna (Donabate) 78, 81, 73, 78. 311: Mrs I C Robertson (Dunaverty) and Mrs W Wooldridge (wentworth) 79, 77, 77, 78. 313: Miss C Waite (Swindon) and Miss C Pierce (Cowdray Park) 81, 77, 79, 76. 316: Miss G Stewart (Inverness) and Miss P Wright (Aboyne) 78, 82, 77, 79: Miss C Hourihane (Woodbrook) and Miss A Gemmill (Barassie) 77, 79, 81, 79. Miss B New (Lansdown) and Miss L Moore (Truro) 75, 77, 83, 84. 326: Mrs C Lacoste (France) and Miss V Pertierra (Spain) 82, 79, 82, 83. 329: Mrs C Williamson (Hartlepool) and Miss P Hun (Tyneside) 80, 85, 76, 77.

Mistake costs Barnes the lead

A rare misunderstanding of the rules of golf by Brian Barnes, a seasoned Ryder Cup player, almost certainly cost him the chance of an outright lead in the first round of the Mufulira Open on Zambia's sun-drenched Copperbelt yesterday. Barnes elected to take a penalty drop at the 412-yards tenth hole from the top of a giant ant hill. The ball was more than head high and totally unplayable, even for the strong and adventurous Barnes.

He droped the ball one club length clear when, under the penalty drop rules, he was allowed a margin of two club lengths. He was still blocked by the ant hill, which stood 15-feet high and a sturdy 40 foot in diameter. The best he could do was to chip out sideways and suffer a two over par six on what is regarded as a reasonably straight forward hole.

Barnes did not realise his error until three holes later when one of his playing partners, Peter Cowen, from Yorkshire, took a penalty drop and quite properly used two club lengths to get back into play. It was only then that Barnes remembered the rules state one club length for a free drop, two club lengths for a penalty drop. Now he finds himself in a four-way tie for the first round lead with David Vaughan, who has represented Wales several times in the World Cup competition; John Fowler, a club professional from Hertfordshire, and Tony Charnley, from Luton.

FIRST-ROUND LEADERS (GB unless stated): 69: B Barnes, J Fowler, A Charnley, D Vaughan. 70: S Martin, Lanner (Swedon), C Mason, W Longmuir, J Morgan, J Morgan, M Foster. 71: P Tupling, D Russell. 72: A Udimoh (Nigeria), M Poron, S Bishop, P Hoad, P Tembo, (Zambia), D Matthew.

Hill Valley landmark

The PGA Club professionals' golf championship, is to be played at Hill Valley, Whitchurch, this year. It will be the first time a national tournament has been played on the Shropshire course since it was opened seven years ago.

FOOTBALL

Spurs reminded about penalties of success

By Clive White

After the joyous celebrations of Wednesday night's success in Frankfurt, Tottenham Hotspur woke up to a different sort of headache yesterday. It is the hangover that goes hand in hand with success, particularly so if you happen to be English. It is otherwise known as fixture congestion.

Their 3-2 overall victory against Eintracht in the quarter-finals of the Cup Winners' Cup has added at least two more matches to the season's midweek programme and possible three. When most of their fellow English professionals will be rummaging through the wardrobe for their swimming trunks come May 17 at the season's end, Tottenham will still have at least five more league matches and possibly two cup finals, FA and Cup Winners'.

Just to make life slightly more trying for Keith Burkinshaw, the manager, he has remembered that he promised Ron Greenwood, Jock Stein and Cesar Luis Menotti, the managers of England, Scotland and Argentina respectively, that his internationals would be available to them as of that date. Between the England matches with Scotland (May 29) and Finland (June 3), Mr Burkinshaw and Bob Paisley, the Liverpool manager, have squeezed in a rearranged game on the Monday.

Tottenham could find themselves deprived of Hoddle, Clemence, Archibald and Ardiles on a night that might decide the championship. The physical demands being lighter on a goalkeeper, Clemence could conceivably play in all these matches. If so, he might just as well go to bed with his boots on.

This is proving to be one of the most hectic seasons in the busy career of the 34-year-old Clemence. Coming to Tottenham in what many considered to be the twilight of his career, he has walked into more of a challenge for which even he had bargained for.

On Wednesday he found himself on the receiving end of two calamitous misplaced passes in the first 15 minutes — by Ardiles and Price — and his goal was subjected to remorseless pressure for the next 45 minutes until the Germans grew weary of the game. It was then that the battered boys in white came and won their game like men with a well considered shot by Hoddle in the seventy-ninth minute.

The evening must have been tinged at the edges with sadness for Clemence's colleagues of 14 years standing at Liverpool. They were the victims of some allegedly notorious decisions by the Austrian referee, Mr Woehrer, in their European Cup quarter-final with CSKA Sofia.

Among them were the dismissal of Lawrenson and the denial of a shot which Liverpool claimed clearly crossed the line. This view was shared by Mike England, the Welsh team manager, who had a perfect view of the incident. To make matters worse after their trek to Sofia, Liverpool said that they had lost money on the tie which attracted less than 30,000 at Anfield.

FC Porto are also protesting — though I feel rather weakly — about the refereeing of Mr McGinlay, of Scotland, who they claimed failed to give permission for a Standard Liege player to return to the field in their Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final.

Bookmaker backs a club with new hope

By Paul Newman

Kettering Town, the most notable of a growing number of non-League clubs to run into financial dificulties have raised more than £7,000 of the £10,000 they need before the end of next week in order to survive.

The Alliance Premier League club, whose telephone has been cut off for several weeks because of an unpaid £500 bill, have debts totalling £100,000 and need to raise £35,000 by the summer. The public have rallied to the club's appeal for help, however, and Maurice Marston, the secretary, has been heartened by the response.

"It has been magnificent," he said. "We still have a long way to go, but we look as though we shall earn a breathing space". Donations have included a local bookmaker's offer of two free £50 bets on next month's Grand National.

One of the latest clubs to run into trouble are Lancaster City, of the Northern Premier League. Their debts total £30,000 and they are losing more than £200 a week. At least £10,000 is needed before the end of the seson if the club are to survive.

The entire board of directors resigned last week to bring the gravity of the situation home to their supporters, nearly 200 of whom attended an emergency public meeting on Tuesday night.

One new director has guaranteed the players' wages until the end of the season and future fund-raising activities include a "sportsmen's evening" which Brian Clough has agreed to attend.

Another club in trouble, Hendon, have resolved most of their money problems by dismissing their manager, Ken Payne, and his assistant, Alan Fursdon, and releasing five players. Mr Payne was sacked because he had exceeded his budget and failed to make sufficient cutbacks in the wages bill.

Hendon were also unhappy with Mr Payne's choice of players to be released. Deadman, who was quickly signed by Dagenham, and Anderson, whom they are trying to entice back, were two of the club's longest-serving players.

Dave Mawson, manager of the Isthmian League club's successful youth side, is now in temporary charge of the first team and officials say they have their financial problems under control.

□Brian Williams has been dismissed as manager of Penrith, just three months after taking the Northern League club to the second round of the FA Cup for the first time in their history.

Northern League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Whitby	30	20	9	1	60	16	69
Blyth	27	17	5	5	51	22	56
Durham	32	16	3	13	68	58	51
Spennymoor	30	12	10	8	48	31	46
Horden CW	28	13	6	9	45	36	45
S Bank	30	12	7	11	51	41	43
B Auckland	29	12	7	10	48	39	43
Ferryhill	29	13	4	12	48	47	43
Shildon	27	12	6	9	46	40	42
N Shields	29	11	9	9	49	47	42
Crook	30	12	5	13	46	52	41
Tow Law	28	11	7	10	55	43	40
Billingham S	26	10	8	8	38	35	38
Penrith	28	10	7	11	45	50	37
Consett	29	9	10	10	35	40	37
Evenwood	31	10	6	15	40	54	36
Whitley Bay	29	7	7	15	37	59	28
W Auckland	29	6	9	14	35	55	27
Ashington	28	6	5	17	38	72	23
Willington	30	2	8	20	40	86	14

Alliance Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Runcorn	27	20	5	2	54	22	65
Enfield	29	19	4	6	64	28	61
Weymouth	35	16	7	12	50	38	55
Dagenham	29	15	8	6	50	33	53
Bath C	31	15	8	8	44	37	53
Scarborough	30	15	6	9	54	40	51
Worcester C	28	15	6	7	44	32	51
Telford U	28	15	5	8	50	38	50
Northwich V	31	14	7	10	36	33	49
Barrow	29	12	8	9	38	32	44
Boston U	30	12	7	11	48	43	43
Trowbdge T	30	10	9	11	30	38	39
Yeovil T	32	10	8	14	43	54	38
Altrincham	28	9	9	10	42	38	36
Stafford R	31	8	11	12	32	38	35
Frickley A	31	9	8	14	32	48	35
Kettering T	31	7	11	13	54	56	32
Grvesnd & N	33	8	7	18	42	58	31
Barnet	32	6	12	14	27	40	30
Maidstone U	28	6	10	12	38	46	28
Dartford	31	7	6	18	33	45	27
AP Leamngtn	33	2	6	25	31	94	12

Hard men face the hard truth

Brighton are about to pay the penalty for their strong approach to the game. Not only is their captain, Steve Foster, ruled out of tomorrow's game at Stoke because of a one-match ban, but he could be joined by his team-mates, Sammy Nelson and Jimmy Case.

These two appear before an FA disciplinary commission in London today for reaching 20 points. Referees have been clamping down on Brighton's physical style. The club have collected 43 cautions in 35 matches this season.

The Lincoln midfield player George Shipley and Doncaster's former England full back Terry Cooper have been suspended for two games after being sent off at Lincoln last week. Their dismissal came under the heading of violent play, so Shipley misses the trip to Exeter next week and the home game against Southend. Cooper misses the game at Huddersfield and the home fixture against Gillingham.

Billy Russell, of Doncaster, who was sent off in the same game, picked up just a one-match ban because he was sent off for persistent misconduct after collecting two cautions. Phil Sproson, of Port Vale, was suspended for one game by an FA disciplinary commission meeting in Birmingham for reaching 20 points. He sits out tomorrow's game at Hull.

The Welsh FA suspended the Newport defender Keith Oakes for one match and warned him as to his future conduct after he reached 20 points. He is free to play in tomorrow's game at Carlisle but misses the home game against Walsall next week.

Stan Bowles, the former England player, has been banned one match for totalling 30 penalty points and will miss Brentford's away match with Burnley. Les Briley, the Aldershot midfield man, misses the match at Aldershot for the same reason.

FOR THE RECORD

TENNIS

STRASBOURG: First round: I Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat A Gimmmalva (US) 6—1, 6—2; A Mayer (US) beat D Gitlin (US) 6—1, 6—2; T Cain (US) beat J Damiani (Uruguay) 7—6, 6—3 Second round: C Mayotte (US) beat T Wattke (US) 6—3, 6—2; H Gunthardt (Switzerland) beat E Dibbs (US) 6—3, 6—0. A Mayer (US) beat R Meyer (US) 6—4, 7—5; T Moore (US) beat V Amritraj (India) 6—4, 6—4 Doubles. M Cahill and T Moor (US) beat J Gurfein and D Gitlin (US) 7—5, 6—4; T Wattke and A Graham (US) beat R Meyor and C Mayotte (US) 7—6, 6—7, 6—2. R Ycaza (Ecuador) and J L Damiani (Uruguay) beat V Amritraj (India) and N Saviano (US) 6—3, 6—0

METZ: First Round. Steve Denton (US) beat K Eberhardt (WG) 7-6, 7-5 Second Round: E Iskersky (US) beat K Meiler (WG) 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. J Gunnarsson (Sweden) beat M Doyle (US) 6-3, 6-3; H Leconte (France) beat P Dupre (US) 6-3, 6-1. P Fleming (US) beat L Palin (Finland) 6-3, 5 7, 10-8

BOSTON: Women's tournament: H Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) Beat L Romanov (Romania) 6-4, 4-6, 6-3, W Turnbull (Australia) beat J Russel (US) 6-2, 6-3; K Jordan (US) beat P Louie (US) 6-2, 6-4, A Hobbs (GB) beat N Yeargin (US) 6-4, 6-2, A Kiyomura (US) beat L Allen (US) 4-6, 6-2, 6-2. Second Round: Y Vermaak (SA) beat M L Piatek (US) 3-6, 6-4, 6-2; A Loend (US) beat C Reynolds 6-2, 6-3.

RUSTIN: Women's tournament: First Round: S Simmonds (Italy) beat C Monteiro (Brazil) 6-2, 6-1; Monteiro beat G Coles (GB) 6-2, 6-4; H Sukova (Czechoslovakia) beat A Temesvari (Hungary) 6-3, 6-2; C Khode (WG) beat Duk Hee Lee (S Korea) 6-4, 6-3; E Pfaff (WG) beat P Medrado (Brazil) 2-6, 6-4, 6-0

ROTTERDAM: C Mottram (GB) beat B Teacher (US) 6-4, 2-6, 7-5; G Vilas (Argentina) beat T Wilkison (US) 6-3, 6-3.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
New Jersey Nets 93, San Antonio Spurs 90; Boston Celtics 113, Atlantic Hawks 109; Philadelphia Tigers 102, Washington Bullets 93; Cleveland Cavaliers 113, San Diego Clippers 107; Los Angeles Lakers 120, Utah Jazz 112; Denver Nuggets 135, Phoenix Suns 133; Chicago Bulls 102, Dallas Mavericks 92; Kansas City Kings 117, Golden State Warriors 116.

Today's fixtures

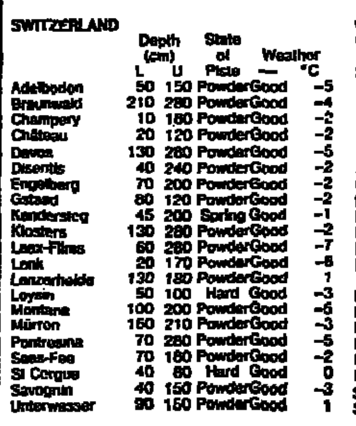
Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.
THIRD DIVISION: — Southend v Preston.
RUGBY UNION: Bristol v Plymouth Albion (7.0); Cardiff v Heriot's F.P (7 15), Leicester v RAF (7 15); Maesteg v Weston-super-Mare (7.0); Pontypool v Bridgend (7.0); Rosslyn Park v London Welsh (7 0); Swansea v Nottingham (7.0)
ATHLETICS: AAA/WAAA U20 Championships (at RAF Cosford).
FENCING: BUSF Tournament (at De Beaumont Centre, West Kensington).
GOLF: Oxford University v Cambridge University (at Hunstanton).
SQUASH RACKETS: Chichester Festival.
ICE HOCKEY: Great Britain v Hungary (at Billingham, 2.0).

SKIING CONDITIONS

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	130	350	Good	Crust	Good	Snow	2
Strong winds							
Anzère	125	260	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	2
Excellent skiing on new snow							
Arosa	180	220	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	−6
Powder on good base							
Courmayeur	205	295	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud	−4
Good skiing everywhere							
Flaine	195	520	Good	Spring	Fair	Snow	0
Poor visibility							
Grindelwald	40	200	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	−2
Ideal skiing conditions							
Kitzbühel	90	210	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	0
New snow on wet base							
Les Arcs	165	260	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	−1
St Anton	160	450	Powder	Powder	Good	Snow	−1
Deep powder skiing							
Zermatt	70	180	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	1
Worn patches on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. News reports from Geneva indicate considerable danger of avalanches in the Alps and skiers are warned not to leave marked tracks. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:



SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Adelboden	50	150	Powder	Good	−5
Braunwald	210	280	Powder	Good	−4
Champery	10	180	Powder	Good	−2
Château	20	120	Powder	Good	−2
Davos	130	280	Powder	Good	−5
Disentis	40	240	Powder	Good	−2
Engelberg	70	200	Powder	Good	−2
Gstaad	80	120	Powder	Good	−2
Kandersteg	45	200	Spring	Good	−1
Klosters	130	280	Powder	Good	−2
Laax-Flims	60	280	Powder	Good	−7
Lenk	20	170	Powder	Good	−8
Lenzerheide	130	180	Powder	Good	1
Leysin	50	100	Hard	Good	−3
Montana	100	200	Powder	Good	−6
Mürren	160	210	Powder	Good	−3
Pontresina	70	280	Powder	Good	−5
Saas-Fee	70	180	Powder	Good	−2
St Cergue	40	80	Hard	Good	0
Savognin	40	150	Powder	Good	−3
Unterwasser	90	150	Powder	Good	1
Villars	50	150	Powder	Good	−3
Wengen	50	190	Powder	Good	−3

FRANCE

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Avoriaz	50	380	—	—	—
Alpe d'Huez	200	310	—	—	—
Chamonix	80	500	—	—	—
Courchevel	100	325	—	—	—
Flaine	180	500	—	—	—
Isola 2000	135	170	—	—	—
La Plagne	200	285	—	—	—
Le Corbier	105	200	—	—	—
Les Contamines	70	320	—	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	100	300	—	—	—
Les Gets	80	220	—	—	—
Les Menuires	130	230	—	—	—
Megève	75	260	—	—	—
Montgenèvre	90	150	—	—	—
Pra-Loup	95	175	—	—	—
St Gervais	120	265	—	—	—
Superdévoluy	90	200	—	—	—

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

European Cup Quarter-final, second leg

Aston Villa (2) 2 — Dynamo Kiev (0) 0
Shaw, McNaught — 38,579
Villa win 2-0 on aggregate

CSKA Sofia (0) 2 — Liverpool (0) 0
Mladenov (2) — 60,000
After extra time: CSKA win 2-1

OTHER MATCHES: Bayern Munich 1, Universitea Craiova (Romania) 1 (agg 3-1); Red Star Belgrade 1, Anderlecht 2 (2-4).

Cup Winners' Cup Quarter-final, second leg

Eintracht F'furt (2) 2 — Tottenham H (0) 1
Borchers, Cha — Hoddle — 45,000
Tottenham win 3-2 on aggregate

OTHER MATCHES: Dynamo Tbilisi 1, Legia Warsaw 0 (agg 2-0), Barcelona 1, Lokomotiv Leipzig 2 (4-2).
Porto 2, Standard Liège 2 (2-4).

First division

Manchester Utd (0) 0 — Coventry C (1) 1
34,499 — Whitton
Nottingham F. (0) 1 — Ipswich T (0) 1
Plummer — Wark (pen) — 16,666

Second division

Chelsea (0) 1 — Crystal Palace (2) 2
Mayes — Murphy, Mabbutt
13,894
Leicester City (0) 1 — Rotherham U (0) 0
Melrose — 21,123

Third division

Chester (0) 0 — Burnley (1) 1
3,261 — Laws (pen)
Oxford U (0) 0 — Exeter C (0) 0 — 5,098

Scottish premier division

Dundee (0) 0 — Aberdeen (1) 3
Cowan, Simpson, Hewitt
Morton (0) 0 — Rangers (0) 0

Scottish first division

Ayr (1) 1 — Kilmarnock (1) 1
McNally — McDicken

Scottish second division

Albion (1) 1 — East Fife (0) 0
Evans
Clyde (1) 1 — Arbroath (0) 1
Cowdenbeath (0) 0 — Stirling (0) 0
Forfar (1) 2 — Montrose (1) 1
McPheel, Alexander — Nicol
Meadowbank (1) 2 — Berwick (0) 1
Georgeson, Jobson — Lawson

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Weymouth 1 Northwich 0
MIDLAND LEAGUE: Sutton 0, Heanor 2
EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group two, first leg. Portugal 1, Switzerland 0.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bass Cup, semi-final, second leg: Burton 2, Gainsborough 2 (aet: 2—2, Gainsborough won 5—3 on penalties.)

Rugby Union

CLUB MATCHES: Bedford 13, Coventry 25, Bridgend 64, Penarth 0; Cheltenham 3, London Irish 21; Cross Keys 6, Tredegar 3; Llanelli 19, Glamorgan Wanderers 9
SCHOOLS MATCHES: St Aloysius College 18, Lenzie Academy 14; Stirling High School 58, Graeme High School 0.

Rugby League

CHALLENGE CUP: Third round replay: Widnes 10, Bradford Northern 7. First division: Castleford 7, Hull 25, Hull KR 18, Wigan 10; Wakefield 18, Fulham 13; Whitehaven v Leigh postponed. Second division. Hunslet 27, Doncaster 10, Rochdale 7, Workington 5; Swinton 9, Huddersfield 12.

● Owing to production difficulties many readers did not receive Wednesday's results in yesterday's paper.

RACING

Silver Buck a tribute to Dickinsons

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Silver Buck won the Gold Cup at Cheltenham yesterday by beating his stable companion Bregawn by two lengths. That bare result represented a magnificent feat by their trainer Michael Dickinson.

The Harewood trainer was following in the footsteps of Peter Easterby who also saddled the first two home in the Cup last year.

As far as Dickinson is concerned his is very much a family affair with father and mother, Tony and Monica, *chipping in and pulling their weight.* That they make a formidable team is *born out* by the fact that Silver Buck's victory yesterday took the stable's earnings this season past £250,000, already beating the previous record set by Easterby last season.

Their skill is well illustrated by the performances of their horses at Cheltenham this week. They brought just four South from their Yorkshire base and they returned home last night with three races in the bag and one second prize. And that second prize was not to be sniffed at either.

The other remarkable aspect about the performances of the Dickinson team this week is that they were all ridden by different men. Robert Earnshaw was on Silver Buck; Kevin Whyte on Rathgorman; Dermot Browne on Political Pop and Graham Bradley on Bregawn.

That Bregawn did not beat Silver Buck was no fault of Bradley who rode an inspired race. I cannot recall a trainer *prepared to put his trust in so* many at this level. If Dickinson's skill in nursing Silver Buck back to full health and fitness has been one of the most outstanding *features of the season so* then has the emergence of Earnshaw as a top-class rider.

Silver Buck was lame and confined to his box for a month after Christmas, having trodden on something so sharp, nobody seems to know whether it was a flint or a nail, that it even damaged his pedal bone. However, *his homework in recent* weeks encouraged Dickinson to such an extent that he felt deep down that he had a great chance of winning a gold medal.

What yesterday's result did was blow to smithereens the theory, held by myself for one, that Silver Buck did not stay a yard beyond three miles. That *appeared to* be the case 12 months earlier when Silver Buck looked like winning this race two fences from home only to be run out of it up the hill. However, *what Dickinson* kept secret was the fact that Silver Buck broke a blood vessel when he finished third in the Gold Cup last year. That explains why he stopped to nothing behind Little Owl ans Night Nurse.

This time, though, there was no holding him. Afterwards, a justifiably, elated trainer simply said that all along he was convinced that Silver Buck would last it out, having won a three-mile hurdle race on him when he *was a jockey.*

Dickinson admitted that he had misgivings when Earnshaw showed his hand and let Silver Buck stride to the front with two fences left but he need not have worried on that score. Only a sketchy jump at the last fence looked like foiling his dreams. But Earnshaw sat tight and all was well in the end.

Little Bregawn — ran the race of his life to finish second. He was followed home by Sunset Cristo, Diamond Edge, Captain John, Grittar, Venture To Cognac, Royal Bond, Tied Cottage, two Swallows, Lesley Ann, Sugarlly and Peaty Sandy, in that order. All the others were pulled up, with the exception of Earthstopper, who fell five fences from home.

Dickinson said that he had no plans for Bregawn, but that Silver Buck would probably rest on his laurels and not run again this season.

Diamond Edge looked really dangerous turning for home, but there can be no doubt now that he is a better horse on good ground and I fancy that he will still be the one they all have to beat in the Whitbread Gold Cup.

Sad to relate, Night Nurse and Royal Bond were the flops yesterday. Night Nurse was pulled up. His rider, John *O'Neill, said that the* tucky ground was to blame but I cannot stand for that. The going was every bit as bad the previous year when he finished second. For one reason or another, as yet unexplained Night Nurse simply ran back yesterday. Royal Bond was at least finished eighth but at no stage did he look like justifying the colossal hopes pinned on him by the huge Irish contingent.

By finishing sixth Grittar did not run the sort of race that encouraged many to think that Spartan Missile might win the Grand National a year ago, but at least he got round and he plugged on dourly. And who knows that might be enough to win this year's National.

A surprise of the meeting was the fact that 18 different riders won the races. O'Neill was awarded the Ritz Club Trophy *which* goes to the leading rider because he was the only jockey to ride a winner and a second.

O'Neill was back to his brilliant best on Path of Peace in the County Handicap Hurdle. The finish of this race was the best of the meeting with Path of Peace just scraping home a fraction in front of Prince of Bermuda, Knighthood, The Tsarevich and Staplestown.

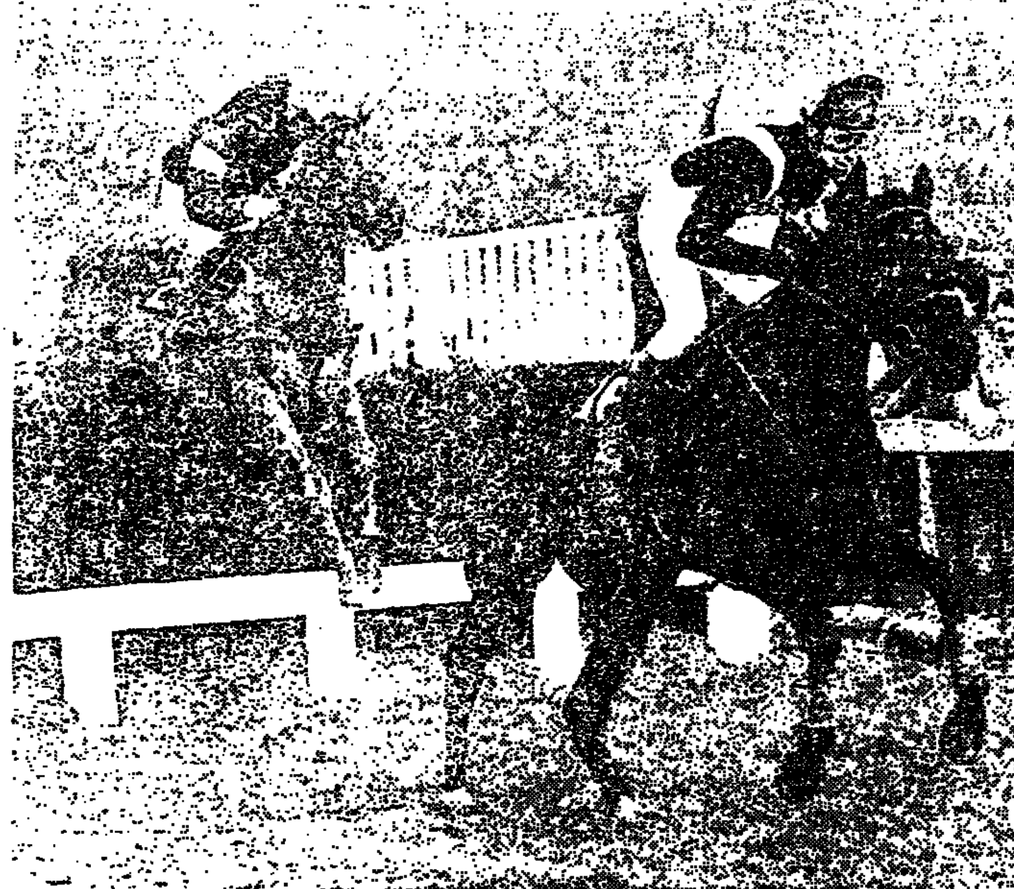
At the end of the day Dramatist gave Fulke Walwyn and Bill Smith a little consolation for not winning the Gold Cup with Diamond Edge, by landing the Cathcart Challenge Cup.

☐ The Yorkshire trainer Mick Easterby has signed 33-year-old John Murray to replace fellow Australian Terry Lucas as his stable jockey. Murray, who made his name in South Australia, rode eight winners in Ireland during a brief stay in 1974.

Murray is at present in Malaysia, where he has been riding for the last five years, but leaves for England next week to take up his new job.

Stewards will inspect Chepstow at 10 am this morning to determine prospects for tomorrow's meeting. The clerk of the course, John Hughes said "There is waterlogging in certain parts of the track and the probability of further rain. Unless there is prolonged drying weather, prospects cannot be too favourable".

Today's meetings at Lingfield Park and Warwick were cancelled because of waterlogging. At Lingfield the four hurdle races from today's card will be carried forward to make a seven-race hurdles programme tomorow.



Heading for gold: Silver Buck and Robert Earnshaw leads stable companion Bregawn

Shiny Copper springs to 66-1 triumph

By Michael Seely

Not for the first time, stamina proved a decisive factor in the *Daily Express* Triumph Hurdle at *Cheltenham yesterday. Racing* to the final flight Jim Wilson and Cima looked almost unbeatable, so smoothly were the pair travelling. But on the stiff uphill *climb to the winning post,* the race developed into a war of attrition. Cima's finishing speed was blunted and, staying on strongly in the hands of Allen Webb, the 66-1 chance Shiny Copper won by two lengths, with General Breyfax three quarters of a length away, third.

Royal Vulcan, the favourite, who had been given plenty of ground to make up by John Francome, finished strongly to take fourth place. "They won't beat me at Liverpool," said the champion jockey afterwards, *perhaps, tacitly admitting that in* his life he had ridden an ill-judged race.

However, nothing can detract from this notable feat of training by Mrs Nadine Smith, who operates from Eastergate near Fontwell. Amazingly, eight of Mrs Smith's twelve successes this season have been scored on the figure-of-eight Sussex track. Yesterday she saddled four runners in the race. At the second hurdle from home Janus looked the most likely of her quartet to succeed, but *eventually he was the only one of her* raiders not to finish in the first nine.

Shiny Copper has only run one bad race this season when *finishing last behind Morice* and Royal Vulcan in the Tote Placepot Hurdle at Kempton. "He was never jumping or going at all well that afternoon," said Mrs Smith. So I suppose you could say that he was the least-fancied of my runners."

Shiny Copper was originally trained by Martin Blackshaw, for whom he won a race over hurdles in France as a three-year-old. The four-year-old must now be regarded as a cheap purchase as the trainer paid only 2,800 guineas for him at the Ascot sales.

After Bregawn's magnificent run behind his stable companion, Silver Buck in the Cheltenham *Gold Cup it was surprising* to find his recent Haydock Park conqueror, Scot Lane, starting at the generous price of 15-2 in the Fitz Club Naional Hunt Handicap Chase.

Lasobany was preferred to Scot Lane in the market, but the 6-1 favourite spoiled his chances with a couple of vital mistakes at a crucial stage of the race. At the last jump it looked like being a close run thing between Scot Lane and Sea Captain and so indeed it proved. Staying on just the stronger Scot Lane eventually prevailed by half a length with Greasepaint five lengths away third.

Martin Tate has now saddled the nine-year-old to win three races in succession with the gelding's owner-breeder, Tim Isherwood. Scot Lane's next objective will be the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown.

The Christies Foxhunter Steeple chase Challenge Cup resulted in another desperate finish. At the last fence, of this, marathon contest, it looled long odds on Honolurable Man gaining honourable revenge for his defeat by Grittar in this race last year. However, in an exciting battle up the hill, the redoubtable Brod Munro-Wilson forced The Drunken Duck's head in front for a narrow win. Tony Fowler, Honourable Man's jockey, may have been feeling the effect of his fall at Doncaster last Saturday when he sustained a bruised shoulder on Cooch Behar.

And with hindsight Mr Fowler may have been prevented from exercising his full strength in a dramatic climax. However, nothing can detract from Munro-Wilson's feat in winning one of the two most coveted trophies for amateur riders, on his own horse. After posing for his photograph, the *merchant banker, an SAS* Territorial said magnanimously, "Big Ron Barry will still have the mount on The Drunken Duck at Aintree".

Nadine Smith: provided another shock Triumph winner.

Three To One in good form

Last season's Grand National fourth, Three To One, tuned up for this year's race with a facile *15-length victory in the Chollerford* Handicap Steeplechace yesterday at Hexham yesterday.

Ridley Lamb made all the running on the 11-year-old, who, *jumping superbly, drew steadily* clear from two out to score from Border Brig. The Hawick trainer Ken Oliver will now be doubly represented at Aintree. Lamb again rides Three To One, while Geordie Dun teams up with Rambling Jack

The Bishop Auckland-based Arthur Stephenson, leading trainer at Hexham, was on the mark again with Dusty Duke, the favourite in the Oakwood Handicap Steepiechase.

Those who took odds of 6-4 on must have been worried two fences out whin Maurice Barnes dashed Trearnie into a three lengths lead. but Ridley Lamb produced Dusky Duke to lead under pressure after the last and he stayed on well to score by eight lengths.

CYCLING

Nice day for Irish on the promenade

From John Wilcockson Nice, March 18

The French sporting public were fully expecting one of their heroes, Gilbert Duclos-Lassalle, *to preserve his country's honour* and his leadership of Paris-Nice in the race's vital final stage the afternoon. Instead, one very determined Irishman, Sean Kelly, *has succeeded another,* Stephen Roche, as the winner of the cycling season's opening classic.

The 25-year-old from Carrick-on-Suir snatched victory in the most emphatic manner possible. Not only did he win this morning's 38-mile road race stage from Mandelieu, he also dominated this afternoon's 6.7-mile time trial up the Grand Corniche road to the Col d'Eze, 1,700ft above Nice.

Duclos-Lassalle could finish only fifth in the hill climb, losing 44 seconds to Kelly in the *process.* By *starting* three minutes after Kwlly, the Frenchman knew exactly by what margin he was ahead or behin the Irishman.

To counter this advantage, Kelly had team helpers stationed at three points up the one-in-ten climb. "By half-way, I knew I was leading," said Kelly. "And from that point on, I gave it everything I had."

This extra effort was enough for Kelly to beat not only his French rival, but also the recognized hill climbing experts, such as the second placed rider, Alberto Fernandez, of Spain.

It is Kelly's most important victory since turning professional five years ago. In stage racing, his best previous results have been fourth in the Tour of Spain and first in the La Panne three-day in Belgium, both in 1980. But he has been regarded as a pure road sprinter *until* today.

The Peugeot team launched an expected attack this *morning,* trying to shake off Kelly on the steep slopes of the Tanneron Pass, that the riders had slithered down in the rain yesterday. This morning, however, the sun was shining brilliantly, and Kelly looked in no danger of cracking.

The fast start split the field, but did not prevent Kelly *from* scoring a majestic win in the resultant sprint between 26 riders who reached the Promenade des Anglais six minutes ahead of the main group.

To prepare for this afternoon's race against the clock, Kelly warmed up for 40 minutes, riding to the top of the climb, and deciding which gears he would *use at which point. In the race* itself, he rode smoothly, choosing a streamlined position where most of his rivals were forced out of the saddle by the steep gradient.

This win opens new horizons for Kelly, who must start this Saturday's Milan-San Remo classic as a clear favourite. "But I have made a lot of effort in the past two days," Kelly said "and one day of rest may not be enough."

SEVENTH STAGE (Mandelieu to Nice, 38 miles): 1, S Kelly (Ireland), 1hr 29min, 05sec; 2, A Van der Poel (Netherlands); 3, J. Vandenbroucke (Belgium); 4, M. Pollentier (Belgium); 5, B Wolfer (Switzerland); 6, S. Roche (Ireland) all 1-29-05. Other placings: 46, P Anderson (Australia) 1hr 35min, 23sec; 61, G. Jones (GB) 1-35-23; 70, S. Jones (GB) 1-42-01.

EIGHTH STAGE: Col d Eze time trial 6.7 miles: 1, Kelly 20min, 50.93 sec; 2, A. Fernandez (Spain) 21-04-31; 3, Vandenbroucke 21-18-24, 4, Oosterbosch (Netherlands) 21-33-50; 5, G Duclos-Lassalle (France) 21-34-95; 6, J Gorospe (Spain) 21-35-29. *Other placings:* 8, Anderson 21-54-78; 14, Roche 22-12-47, 59, S. Jones 25-01-75; 76, G Jones 27-12-29

FINAL POSITIONS: 1, Kelly 32hrs, 3min, 21sec; 2, Duclos-Lassalle 32-04-44; 3, Vandenbrucke 32-04-33; 4, Oosterbosch 32-04-44; 5, C Criquielion (Belgium) 32-05-26; 6, Roche 32-05-36 Other placings: 16, Anderson 32-12-10; 44, G. Jones 32-48-47; 70, S. Jones 33-19-23

ROUND-UP

Yachting

John Loveday and his crewman, Jonathan Ward, have been sponsored in their quest for 1984 Olympic selection in the Flying Dutchman class. Dr Loveday, from Chesterfield, and Ward from Sheffield have been given three years' sponsorship by the high street confectioners, J. W. Thornton Ltd, of Belper, Derbyshire.

The FD class is always one of the most competitive and while Thornton have not announced the sum involved, which is paid through the Royal Yachting Association to protect the yachtsmen's amateur status, the initial outlay has provided a new boat which the crew are adapting to suit their adventurous style.

Cricket

Islamabad, March 18. Seven senior Pakistani cricketers said today they were ready to rejoin the Test side and end the row over the team's captaincy. A statement by the opening batsman, Majid Khan, spokesman for the seven players, said they were available for selection again now that the captain, Jayed Miandad, had announced he would not be available to lead the team in England later this year.

The statement said the seven players, Majid, Imran Khan, Zaheer Abbas, Sarfraz, Nawaz, Mudassar Nazar, Sikandar Bakht and Wasim Bari, appreciated Miandad's decision to resign from the captaincy of the team: "The cricket board has asked us about our availability in view of Miandad's decision and we have informed them that we are available for Pakistan." the *statement said.*—Reuter

Skiing

Kranjska Gora, Yugoslavia, March 18.—The elite of the world's slalom skiing specialists will get together here tomorrow and on Saturday for the end-of-season World Cup giant and special slaloms. With only two meetings to go — at San Sicario, Italy, and Montgenevre, France, next week — results here could be decisive

The outcome of yesterday's giant slalom at Bad Kleinkirchheim in Austria did not change the standings but reopened the battle in the cup series. Phil Mahre (United States) and Ingemar Stenmark (Sweden) are joint leaders on 100 points each, but *Mahre's twin, Steve, on 60,* could overtake them if he collects the victor's 25 points in the remaining giants. Phil Mahre has finished second in six giant *slaloms this season, but must win* here to improve his points tally, since only each skier's five best performances are taken into account.—Agence France Presse.

WCT's cutback

Strasbourg France March 18 World Championship Tennis will cut back its tournaments by about 25 per cent next year, John McDonald, the WCT international director, said today The Dallas-Based organization is currently running a 22-tournament circuit with total prizemoney of $7.9 million.

McDonald predicts a maximum of 16 tournaments in 1983, although prize money of $300,000 for each would be maintained.

☐ Andrea Jaeger will be unable to play in the finals of the women's winter tennis circuit at Madison Square Garden in New York from March 24-28. The american, 17 placed second in the standings after her victories at Detroit and Oakland, has a stress fracture of the left pelvic bone.

Chinese courses

Tokyo, March 17.—China plans to build two golf courses, the first in a socialist country, with the help of a Japanese firm, it was reported here today. It is hoped that the plans, involving expenditure of $17m, will result in courses in the suburbs of Peking and the suburbs of Shenzhen.—Agence France-Presse.

Bristol delay

Bristol City have postponed the issue of £1m worth of shares because they say they are unable to comply with conditions laid *down by the Football League.* City almost collapsed because of debts last month but were saved when eight players agreed to accept redundancy payments

Floodlit final

Blackheath and Sidcup meet in the final of the Courage Cup floodlit rugby competition on *Tuesday,* five days before their encounter in the Kent Cup final on March 28. The floodlit final, *at* Gravesend, has been twice postponed because of bad weather and the rail strike.

Cushman doing Cheltenham in style

By John Karter, Racing Editor

Looking every inch the English country gentleman, strolling around Cheltenham in his military-style overcoat and trilby hat for the past three days, has been America's champion steeplechase jockey, John Cushman.

Virtually the minute he arrived Cushman, who flies back to South Carolina today after a three-week working holiday over here with his attractive wife Sandy (a dead ringer for Shirley McLaine), was taken out by Bob Champion, with whom he has been staying, and made to buy the *de rigeur* racing garb. He certainly looked the part even if he did not sound it.

Cushman, aged 26, who has been the United States champion for the past two seasons, has been riding out for Fred Winter and picked up the ride on Aughra Boura for Paddy Prendergast in the Sun Alliance Hurdle on the opening day.

The American season runs from April to November and the ground is invariably rock-solid. Their *horses* are bred for *speed* and go flat out all the way, so Cushman was naturally a little bemused by the brown bog that passes for a race track and the *fact that horses come off the* bridle so early.

Jump racing in the States is not so much a poor relation of the Flat as a dead one. This is *mainly* because *no betting is* allowed at the courses. Even so with 27 winners from approximately 100 rides (they have only one meeting a week) last year he *won $250,000 in prize money*.

Ten percent of that sum, plus handsome fees for riding work every day as well as a healthy income from the saddlery business *that* he and his *wife run,* means that he is not exactly short of a dime or two.

Cushman intends to return for a longer visit next year. Would he consider riding over here permanently? "No," he says, "I'm too old. And anyway your guys are too professional for me."

As you listen to that magician of the microphone, Peter O'Sullevan, reeling off horses' names like a tape recording you could be *forgiven* for thinking that it all comes so easily to him. Just one glance at the harrassed-looking figure, hunched over a desk in the corner of the press room each night, soon dispels that notion. O'Sullevan works till about 8 o'clock every eveing, making intricate drawings of the riders' colours and swotting them up for the next day's meeting. He is usually the last to leave the course.

You would think that having done the job for so many years he would recognise a large percentage of the colours automatically. It is not quite as simple as that, though. He has to start from scratch with each race becasue although the colours may be familiar he has to associate them with that owner's particular horse in *that* race.

O'Sullevan, an amazingly shy, self-effacing man, totally contrary to the image his broadcasting voice projects, still gets so knotted up before big races that he feels physically ill. "It's getting a little getter nowadays," he says. *Looking at his worried* face, you would never believe it.

It goes without saying that *Cheltenham* without the Irish is like a pub without alcohol. It's not just the wild drinking and gambling that make them so endearing, though it is the little incidents, too. Like, for example, the half a dozen or so Irishmen standing around the paddock cursing each other and almost coming to blows *in* an argument over how many Gold Cups Arkle would have won if he had stayed sound — "Bejasus youse stupid divil, he'd have won at least ten."

Or the tubby little Irish priest running along after the long-striding Michael Dickinson, gasping: "Do you fancey it, Michael?" (referring to Rathgorman). Dickinson, replies: "No chance in the ground." The priest pauses, reflects for a while, mutters: "that's what he said yesterday about Political Pop," and rushes off to pile on God's money.

Talking of our Gaelic visitors, it seems that despite reports of all night card schools with £10,000 kitties in local hotels, they have not been adopting their usual head down approach to betting. Several of the big bookmaking firms report turnover well down, probably because of the devaluation of the Irish punt. The biggest reported bet, in terms of takeout, seems to have been the £22,000 to £4,000, laid to the daddy of all Irish gamblers, J. P. McManus, over Mister Donovan. Incidentally, informed sources say that McManus won nothing like the £250,000 in all on that same horse, as was reported in the papers, nearer £75,000, it is believed.

As at many of our big *meetings, some of the over*-zealous gatemen at the Festival have been upsetting not a few people with their Gestapo-like interrogating. One of the brighter incidents to arise out of *such a* situation was when Neville Crump, our longest serving trainer, was stopped and asked who he was. "Have you been training long?" the gateman asked. "Awhile" came back the reply. "Are you Irish?" the man ventured. "Look me up under Yiddish" retorted Crump, sweeping imperiously through.

Neville Crump: faced a Gestapo-like interrogation

Coolishall cleared

Coolishall has been given the Aintree all-clear. The ink-smudge on the vaccination record that put the 13-year-old out of the Grand National last Saturday, has now been deciphered to the Jockey Club's satisfaction. His owner-trainer Broderick Munro-Wilson said, "He's back in contention for Aintree, and Ron Barry rides.".

STATE OF GOING (official): Fakenham: Soft, tomorrow Lingfield: Soft, with heavy patches Newcastle, good: Chepstow (inspection 10 am), ground waterlogged in parts Uttoxeter: Soft.

Cheltenham results

GOING: HEAVY

2 15 (2 17) DAILY EXPPRESS TRIUMPH HURDLE (4-y-o: £18,382. 2m)

SHINY COPPER b g, by Shiny Tenth — Comprella (D Tylor) 11-0 A Webb (66-1) 1
Cima br g, by High Top — Lemon Blossom (R Lambourne) 11-0 Mr A J Wilson (12-1) 2
General Breyfax ch g, by Sweet Revenge — Perbury (J Gittio) 11-00 G McCourt (100-1) 3

Also ran: 7-2 fav Royal Vulcan (4th), 6 Morton, 13-2 Goldspun, 14 Janus, 15 Lulav, 16 Gamble Hall (pu), Monce, 20 Arkan, Krug, 22 Sandalay, 25 Val Climber, 33 Dr Steve, Weavers Point, 40 Prince Bless, 50 Wally Wombat, Cornishman, 100 Adam Craig, Bean Boy, Cornish Granite, Great Light, Jade and Diamond, Music City, Nully Slack, Supper's Ready, Sweeoy (pu), Sympatique (29 ran, NR: City Link Star)
TOTE Win: ££35.67 Places: £8.35, 29p, £2.11. *Dual Forecast* £86.12 C S.F. £55 57. Mrs N Smith at Chichester 2l, ¾l.

2.50 (2 53)CHRISTES FOXHUNTER CHALLENGE CUP (£6,588: 3¼m)

THE DRUNKEN DUCK b g by Pony Express—Polly Buckle (B Munro-Wilson) 9-12-0 Mr B Munro-Wilson (12-1) 1
Honourable Man b g by Marcus Brutus—Woodland Maiden (Mrs P Russell) 9-12-0 Mr A Fowler (9-4 fav) 2
Mr Mellors br g by Precipice Wood—Lady C (Mrs A Villar) 9-12-0 Mrs L Gibbon (14-1) 3

Also Ran: 4 Colonel Heather (u.r.); 13-2 Dancing Brig (4th); 12 Armagnac Princess (f); 20 Petite Mandy, Sun Lion; 25 Sparkford (p.u.); 33 First Schedule (p.u.), Wiener Chic, 40 Meet m the Casbah, 50 Gayle Warning, Gay Tab, Hunter's Guide (p.u.). My Squire (f), Old Bean (p.u.), Best Boy (p.u.), Valerion (p.u.). 19 ran NR: Gemmerly Jane.

TOTE: Win 80p. Places: 18p, 13p, 42p. Dual *F. £1.23. CSF £3.72. B. Munro-Wilson at* Horsham. Hd, 10l.

3.30 (3.34)TOTE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP CHASE (£48,386: 3¼m)

SILVER BUCK br g by Silver Cloud—Choice Archless (Mrs C Feather) 10-12-0 R Earnshaw (8-1) 1
Bregawn ch g by Saint Denys—Miss Society (M Kennelly) 8-12-0 G. Bradley (18-1) 2
Sunset Cristo b g by Derek H—Sunset Rambler (Miss C. Hawkey 8-12-0 C Grant (100-1) 3

Also Ran: 11-4 fav Night Nurse (p.u.); 4 Royal Bond; 6 Venture To Cognac; 10 Lesley Ann; 11 Diamond Edge (4th); 16 Grittar; 25 Tied Cottage, Henry Bishop (p.u.); 33 Border Incident (p.u.); 40 Captain John, Peaty Sandy; 50 Earthstopper (f), Master Smudge (p.u.); 100 Snow Flyer (p.u.), Straight Jocelyn (p.u.), Sugaralty, Two Swallows, 150 Drumroan (p.u.); 300 Wansford Boy (p.u.), 22 ran.

TOTE WIN: 95p Places: 30p, 37p, £3.58, dual f: £3.80. CSF: £14.87. M. Dickinson at Harewood. 2l, 12l

4 05 (4.12) RITZ CLUB CHASE (Handicap £11,274: 3m 1f)

SCOT LANE ch g by Jock Scot — Tandridge Lane (T Isherwood) 9 10 12 C Smith (15-2) 1
Sea Captain b g by Mon Capitaine — *Jersey Flame* (G Reeve) 8 10 11 A Webber (16-1) 2
Greasepaint ch g by Gala Performance — Wind Swift (Mrs N Todd) 7 10 8 J P Byrne (10-1) 3

Also ran: 6 fav Lasobany, 7 Roller Coaster, *Leney Dual*; 10 Luska, Ballyross, *Royal Russe*; 16 Megans Boy (p), Deep Gale, Lewis Homes (b); 18 Macks Garage (p); 25 Greenways (4th); 50 Abbey Brig (p); 100 Pillager, Bobelle, Harpalyce (p). 18 ran.

Tote: win, 70p; places, 19p, 47p, 23p, 47p. Dual F: £21.72. CSF: £13.15. Tricast: £113.60. M Tate at Kidderminster. ½l, 15l.

4 40 (4 48) COUNTY HURDLE (Handicap: £7,880 2 m)

PATH OF PEACE br g by Arpath — Turtle Dove (Miss L Gold) 6 10 6 J J O'Neill (4-1) 1
Prince of Bermuda b g by Prince Tenderfoot — Marie May (B Babbage) 7 10 6 Mr N Babbage (12-1) 2
Roadway b g by Boreen — Bordelaise (R Maguire) 6 10 0 T Carberry (16-1) 3

Also ran: 3 (fav) Staplestown; 8 Lord Leighton (f) 12 Derring-Do (4th) Kintbury, Mr Moonraker, The Tsarevich, and Walnut Wonder; 16 Fortune Cookie, and Miss Kortisso, 25 Fra Mau; 33 Astis, Golden River, Linton, Press Gang and Whisky Go Go, 50 Disco Dancer, 66 Brock Hill and Raise the Bid, 100 Bleathwood and Gold Blood. nr Western Man 23 ran.

TOTE win 41p; places; 16p, 29p, £1.07, 35p, Dual f: £1.80. CSF: £6.12. Tricast: £69 72. C W Thornton at Middleham. Hd, Hd.

5.15 (5.18) CATCHCART CHASE (£8,807 2½m)

DRAMATIST b g by David Jack Doone Valley (L Thwaites) 11 11 8 V. Smith (15-8) 1
Chinrullah ch g by Bluerullah — Chinola (Mrs R. Eastwood) 10 11 5 P. Scudamore (4-1) 2

ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Owens Image (4th;) 10 Hot Tomato (p) 66 Zelda's Fancy. 6 ran. NR: King Weasel and Rodman.

TOTE: win 27p, places, 17p, 16p. Dual F: 48p. CSF: 95p. F. Walwyn at Lambourn. 2½l, 8l.

TOTE DOUBLE: Silver Buck and Path of Peace £45.10. TREBLE. The Drunken Duck, Scot Lane and Dramatist. £122.35 Jackpot not won. PLACEPOT: £2,641.

Hexham results

Going: soft

2.0 (2.0) OAKWOOD CHASE (Handicap: £984: 2m)

DUSKY DUKE, br g, by Dusky Boy — Da Capo (Charlotte Lady Reay) 7-11-10 R Lamb (4-6fav) 1
Trearnie .... M Barnes (9-2) 2
Captain Perkhill .... S Charlton (3-1) 3

TOTE: Win 14p Dual f 48p. CSF 39p W A Stephenson at Bishop Auckland. 8l, 4l. Supreme Sail (12-1) 4th. 4 ran.

2.30 (2 2) FALLOWFIELD OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Handicap: £530: 2m)

SPEED OF LIGHT, ch g, by Laser Light —Heraldry (B Stamper) 7-11-1 K Adshead (11-2) 1
Reay's Song .... J A Harris (3-1) 2
Malcolms Pride .... K Jones (33-1) 3

TOTE Win: £1 40; places: £1 02, 17p, 40p *Dual forecast* £2.61. CSF: £2.21. A Smith at Beverley, 8l, 4l. Hyde 10-11 fav. Stoke St. Mary (33-1) 4th. 9 ran.

(3.5) CHOLLERFORD CHASE (Handicap: £1,238:—3m)

THREE TO ONE ch g by Even Money - Yukon Girl (J Manners) 11 11 7 R Lamb (9-4 fav) 1
Border Brig .... C Pimlott (7-2) 2
Rigorous .... Mr D Browne (3-1) 3

TOTE win 42p; places: 25p, 11p, Dual F: 21p. CSF: 90p K Oliver at Hawick. 15l, 1l. Master Marmaduke (33-1) 4th. 7 ran.

3 45 COASTLEY HURDLE (DIV I: Novices £506 2m)

GROMDERS ch g by Baragol — Toison D'Or (Needhams Butchers) 4-10-4 A Brown (5-6 fav) 1
Under-Rated N Tinkler (11-4) 2
Great Tarquin R Lamb (-1) 3

Tote win: 20p; places: 10p, 16p, 11p. Dual F 14p CSF: 34p E Carter at Malton. 8l, 1l. Goldenogon (9-1) 4th. 8 ran.

4.15 (4 17) PLOVER HILL CHASE (Novices. £835 3m)

YOUNG SAGERT, b g by Giolla Mear — Car Shine (J Charlton) 9-10-10 B Adamson (7-2) 1
Historic House .... A Brown (10-1) 2
Liberty Bodice .... Mr T Reed (6-1) 3

TOTE Win, 39p; places, 13p, 21p, 26p: Dual F, 87p, CSF, £4.16 J Charlton at Stocksfield 2l, 3l. Mr Shugg (4-5) fav. Archiirade (20-1) 4th. 10 ran.

4.45 (4 47) COASTLEY HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £524 2m)

FLIGHTY FRIEND, ch g, by Be Friendly—Glimmer (R Botterill) 4-10-4 A Brown (1-2 fav) 1
Silken Touch .... Mr E McIntyre (14-1) 2
Armanos .... Miss N Thompson (33-1) 3

TOTE Win, 14p; places, 12p, 14p, 45p: Dual f: 97p. CSF: 83p. R Woodhouse at Welburn. 10l, 8l. Featherstone Flyer (14-1) 4th. 8 ran.

5 15 (5 15)COASTLEY HURDLE (Div III: Novices £524: 2m)

GREEN MENELEK b m Menelek—Lady Hansol (W Lockey) 6-11-13 D Wilkinson (11-2) 1
Ha'penny Nap .... C Pimlott (2-1 fav) 2
Lingdale .... A Flint (5-2) 3

Tote: win, £1 87, places: £2.12, 10p. Dual F: 65p CSF £1 57. Placepot: Win: £17 05. D Wilkinson at Middleham. 3l, nk. Imperial Amber (6-1) 4th, 6 ran.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: 1,000 Guineas, Newmarket: Mac Rheims. All engagements (dead): Blackwater Bridge, Barrow Fox, Jacthelot, Joe Poles, Nautic Star, Rafael Molina, East Riding, High Cheviot, Mount Street, Alma Mater, Brave Mary, Klairakino, Bonds Cay, Panto Island, Cuckoo Clock, White Umbrella, Jean Premier.

Fakenham

2.15 CASTLEACRE CHASE (Novices: £768: 3m) (15 runners)

3	000-00u	BANK LAW (R Bridge) J Harris 6-11-5	J A Harris 4
4	404u	BOBTREE (R Graham) N Gaselee 6-11-5	M Floyd
5	0/00u00	BY THE RIVERSIDE (B) (Mrs M Langley-Pope) P Harriss 8-11-5	P Carvill
6	40f02	CRAFTY LOOK (G Paul) J Scallan 7-11-5	J Barlow
7	0-0p243	CUSHENDALL (D Britton) P Allingham 8-11-5	—
9	f000-0p	FREDDY SPHINX (S Richardson) Rex Carter 7-11-5	Mr S Richardson 7
10	3p-0002	FRENCH CHARISMA (H Sughayer) G Kindersley 6-11-5	A Webber
11	0-434f0	GAME BID (Mrs M Bennion) Rex Carter 8-11-5	Mr W Bennion
12	pf0p	GAME DECEPTION (G King) G King 8-11-5	S McNeill
13	0p000	HIPPED (A Owen) G Thorner 8-11-5	R Kington
14	010201	JACKS PRIDE (Lady Macdonald-Buchanan) D Morley 7-11-5	P Scudamore
16	fp/00f	KARAMIST (J Blatherwick) J Harris 10-11-5	—
17	000	KNAPP FLIGHT (R Bailey) V Soane 8-11-5	G McCourt
22	p-00000	PRIMEAND (Mrs A Fitch-Heyes) J Fitch-Heyes 6-11-5	A Madgwick 7
24	000013	VARTKEZ (R Taylor) C Mackenzie 5-10-9	M Bastard

2 Jacks Pride, 3 Crafty Look, 9-2 Cushendall, 6 Vartkez, 8 French Charisma, 10 Game Bid, 12 others.

2.45 WYMONDHAM HURDLE (Selling Handicap: £745: 2m 120yds) (15)

2	040000	CHAPERON (W Marson) J Harris 6-11-9	M Brennan 7
3	0f0f0p	DAKAR (R Andrews) N Henderson 6-11-9	—
5	b4-2302	ROSIE'S SECRET (T Frame) A Smith 5-11-4	M Pepper 7
6	000022	TIPTOE LOVER (R Juckes) R Juckes 6-11-3	P Carvill
8	0	FIELD FARE BOY (T Rollingson) T Rollingson 4-11-1	J Barlow
9	0000	LACKADAISICAL MISS (J Walas) Rex Carter 5-11-1	J A Harris 4
11	4f0030	RIBODEN (D Richards) G Fletcher 4-10-12	G Fletcher 4
12	440131	LITTLE TYRANT (C Francis) B Richmond 5-10-11	P Corrigan 7
14	000020	MAGIC ABROAD (J Whetstone) C Mackenzie 4-10-10	J Francome
17	000020	SWEETHILL (G Carlotti) G Ripley 4-10-7	R Goldstein
18	300000	BRAHMS AND LISZT (J Parish) W Charles 6-10-7	M Charles 4
19	300-000	SECOND RISE (M Gadsby) R Wall 6-10-6	R Stronge 7
20	000-u00	YANKEE BALLAD (R Hobson) R Hobson 8-10-5	D Shaw 7
22	60p-00	BRIGADIER DAN (B McKay) J Scallan 6-10-4	G Kennard 7
23	0000p4	POLIPUTER (G Harman) G Harman 4-10-4	P A Charlton

7-4 Tiptoe Lover, 7-2 Rosie's Secret, 9-2 Little Tyrant, 6 Polipuler, 8 Magic Abroad, 10 Sweethill, 14 others.

3.15 SWAFFHAM CHASE (Handicap: £1,287: 2m 5f 150yds) (8)

4	0013u0	GUN METAL (Mrs A Beeson) E Beeson 7-11-7	J Akehurst 7
5	042130	KALKASHANNDI (Mrs K Underwood) D Morley 6-11-3	P Scudamore
10	f30412	RUBBER LEGS (K Read) W Marshall 6-10-4	J Suthern
12	041fp-u	KING'S CHAMPION (Capt A Pratt) A Pratt 10-10-3	P Nicholls 7
13	1f-320	GLENTURK (B) (B Turner) P Harriss 9-10-2	P Carvill
14	023314	NOOKIE BEAR (CB) (R De Courcey) P Mitchell 5-10-1	A Webber
15	0-01003	PRINCE CARLTON (C) (Mrs J Bloom) Mrs J Bloom 7-10-0	R Rowe
16	0p-p000	LINARTO (F Coton) F Coton 11-10-0	—

6-4 Nookie Bear, 11-4 Kalkashanndi, 5 Rubber Legs, 7 Gun Metal, 10 Prince Carlton, 12 Glenturk, 14 others.

3.45 DOWNHAM MARKET HURDLE (handicap: £1,080: 2m 120yds) (13)

1	20000	RA TAPU (D Lugg) P Mitchell 5-12-7	—
5	000341	MAC'S DELIGHT (H Maddever) Rex Carter 5-10-8 (5 ex)	J A Harris 4
6	202000	PRIVATE AUDIENCE (Mrs A Beeson) E Beeson 6-10-5	J Akehurst 7
7	0010-00	GLEN MOY (J Lemon) D Ringer 7-10-1	S McNeill
8	300221	SPIKEY BILL (CD) (R Cheetham) P Mitchell 5-10-0	R G Hughes
9	044-130	CORNARD (CD) (M Allen) J Scallan 11-10-0	J McLaughlin 4
10	000023	JOSMOLL (R Taylor) C Mackenzie 5-10-0	M Bastard
11	020	SYNCOPATE (B Stamper) A Smith 5-10-0	M Pepper 7
14	001-ppf	MASTER KEN (J Fitch-Heyes) J Fitch-Heyes 8-10-0	A Madgwick 7
16	012-00	WELL GREASED (B Moon) W Holden 5-10-0	S Smith Eccles
17	322100	MISS METRO (Mrs D Drew) C Drew 5-10-0	R Stronge 7
19	0/2u0-0	CAPTAIN EZRA (E) (R Finch) J Scallan 13-10-0	J Scallan
21	4-00000	STRAITS(B) (T Rollingson) T Rollingson 5-10-0	J Barlow

4-6 Ra Tapu, 7-2 Spikey Bill, 6 Mac's Delight, 12 Syncopate, 14 Conrad, 20 others.

4.15 FAKENHAM HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,066: 2m 55yds) (13)

2	240-013	RAMBLIX (C) (P Ledger) P Ledger 10-12-4	Mr T Head 7
4	0000/p-	ACLE (P O Halloran) A O O Halloran 7-11-8	—
5	2/01202-	AINGERS GREEN (D Gibbon) D Gibbon 8-11-8	Mrs L Gibbon
7	4rp/0p-	BANLIEU (B) (O Vaughan-Jones) O Vaughan-Jones 12-11-8	Miss S Burgis 7
10	0p/420-	CALIFORNIAN (J M Turner) J M Turner 7-11-8	Mr D Turner
11	1010-00	GRAND TRIANON (Sir Guy Cunard) Sir Guy Cunard 10-11-8	—
14	00/000-	NIGHT MESSENGER (B Summers) B Summers 10-11-8	—
15	200100/	QUEEN'S COLLEGE (Queen Mother) Maj E Wilson 11-11-8	Mr W Bennion 7
16	41/0fp-	QUIMILT (Maj b Ward) B Ward 10-11-8	Mr M Heaton-Ellis 7
17	00030/	QUORUM PORUM (Capt W Bulwer-Young) W Bulwer-Long 8-11-8	—
19	40312/p	SCORDUFF (Mrs N Stearn) Mrs N Stearn 9-11-8	Mr S Stearn 7
20		SHANG HIDE (J Millington) J Millington 9-11-8	Mr P Millington 7
22		LAKIN (Mrs A Villar) Mrs A Villar 5-11-0	Mr S Sherwood 7

7-4 Ramblix, 11-4 Aingers Green, 4 Scorduff, 11-2 Californian, 10 Quimilt, 12-4 others.

4.45 HOLKHAM HURDLE (Novices: 4-y-o: £690: 2m 120yds) (13)

2	00123	HATTAN (G Yarrow) P Mitchell 11-6	R G Hughes
3	10p	HIYA JUDGE (A Bailey) A Bailey 11-6	S Parr 4
4	3031	LEFT BANK (G Beccle) D Morley 11-6	P Scudamore
5	103	ROYAL RASCAL (M Mendoza) W Musson 11-6	A Coogan
8	0000	BOTTISHAM (Mrs B Simmons) W Marshall 10-10	J Suthern
11	300	EDWARD LADELL (J Millington) J Millington 10-10	Mr P Millington 7
14	00	JIMMY LAW (T O Shea) C Mackenzie 10-10	M Bastard
16	0020	KALIFE (Mrs S Shally) C Mackenzie 10-10	J Francome
17	0000	ORANGE VALLEY (B) (M Allen) J Scallan 10-10	J McLaughlin 4
18	0000	PETHAM BELLE (P Wright) C Drew 10-10	R Stronge 7
19		PREAUX (Mrs R King) D Ringer 10-10	S McNeill
23	3202	SOVEREIGN SHOT (R Andrews) Mrs E Andrews 10-10	Mr S Andrews 7
25	000	TUDOR BOB (Lord Walpole) Rex Carter 10-10	J A Harris 4

11-8 Hattan, 5-2 Loft Bank, 9-2 Royal Rascal, 6 Sovereign Shot, 10 Hiya Judge, 12 others.

Fakenham selections

2.15 Crafty Look. 2.45 Rosie's Secret. 3.15 Nookie Bear. 3.45 Ra Tapu.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Football ground may stage Hull's big day

By Keith Macklin

At least two, and possibly three, football grounds will stage matches during the tour by Australia in October and November. The Kangaroos will play a 15-match programme over seven weeks, beginning on October 10 with Hull Kingston Rovers. On October 24 they will play Wales at Ninian Park, Cardiff, and on November 21 will meet Fulham at Craven Cottage.

The possibility of a third football ground being used is an intriguing one. At the moment preliminary soundings are being made between Hull and Hull City for the possible joint use of Boothferry Park. In the itinerary for the Australian tour, released yesterday, two matches are listed for Hull, an *international* match on October 30 and a game against the Hull club on November 17. Although these have been pencilled in for Hull's Boulevard Ground, it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that by the time the Kangaroos arrive agreement will have been reached for the use of Boothferry Park.

The Australians have opted for a busy start to the tour, which will include three internationals, the other two being at Wigan and Headingley. They have asked for four fixtures in the first week, and *six* games before the first international at Hull. Every member of the touring party will no doubt be used between October 10 and October 17 in the matches against Hull KR, Wigan, Barrow and St Helens.

The internattional at Hull will be only the third time that Humberside has housed an Australasian tour international. Hull *staged one in 1921 and* Hull Kingston Rovers in 1929. With the current boom in attendances in Humberside the decision was inevitable.

ITINERARY: October 10 Hull KR; 13 Wigan; 15 Barrow; 17 St Helens; 20 Leeds; 24 Wales (Cardiff); 30 England (Hull). November 3 Leigh; 7 Bradford Northern; 9 Cumbria; 14 England (Wigan); 17 Hull; 21 Fulham; 23 Widnes; 27 England (Leeds).

ROWING

Oxford guided into a lonely vacuum

By Jim Railton

Oxford elected to row a medium to long haul late yesterday afternoon from the University Stone to Chiswick Steps "paced" by a national eight and their reserves, Isis.

They did so with a substitute, Stewart from Isis standing in for Youge who was away on interview.

The national eight consisted of their present coxed and coxless fours fused together for the exercise, with five established internationals on board. Oxford elected to row on the Surrey station with the tide still turning

The lead interchanged a few feet either way in the first two minutes before Oxford moved out to lead by a third of a length. By the time the crews converged, the national eight had a good length and a half in hand and not only shut the door on their *opponents rowing for a while line* astern, but also actually took the Surrey station.

The squad peeled off at Hammersmith Bridge almost two lengths up. Isis were supposed to nurse their big brothers along, but instead elected to scurry away leaving Oxford in a lonely vacuum. Oxford reached Chiswick Steps in a shade over 13 *minutes,* some two minutes 44 seconds down on the record achieved by Oxford in the 1976 Boat Race.

Today's outings: Oxford 10.0 *and 3.30, Cambridge 11 and 5.30.*

OXFORD: *N A Connington (Hampton and Oriel) bow, G R N Holland (Radley and Oriel), H E Clay (Eton and Magdalen), *R P Yonge (King's Canterbury and New College), *N B Bankov (Bradford GS and St Hugh's), S J L Foster (Brentford and Pembroke), A K Kirkpatrick (Durham University and Oriel), R C Clay (Eton and New College) stroke, S Brown (Taunton and Wadham) cox.

CAMBRIDGE: P. St J Brine (St Edwards and LMBC), A T Knight (Hampton and Clare), *R J Stephens (KCS Wimbledon, Emmanuel), N J Bliss (Barnard Castle and Corpus), B M Philip (Bryanston and Downing), C D Heard (Shrewsbury and LMBC), E G M Pearson (King's Canterbury and Jesus), S A Harris (Desborough and Queens) stroke, I P Bernstein (City of London and Emmanuel) cox.

BOXING

The gentleman in Boza is not trying to get out

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Cornelius Boza-Edwards was back in the gym in Highgate yesterday after an early night on Wednesday when the European junior lightweight champion, Carlos Hernandez, of Spain, handed him the title on a plate. *The Spaniard turned his back on* him and the Albert Hall crowd and walked out in the fourth round.

Boza-Edwards is preparing to box on Las Vegas on April 24 either on the Rolando Navarette — Rafael Limon championship bill or against Navarette himself if *Limon* changes the date, as he has done on nine other occasions.

"We'll be practising getting under those right hands Hernandez was catching him with last night" George Francis, his trainer, said yesterday. "Also I want Boza to stop being the gentleman in the *ring*. It is dangerous. I had to him a touch of the Covent Garden language for holding back after the referee had allowed the Spaniard to rest after that low blow and told him to box on.

"I told Boza, 'You are not an amateur now. You are a tough *professional* and *you* must *stop* that. I don't like him to touch gloves either after every round. A man can hit him and say he did not hear the bell. What can you do when the damage is done?'"

Mr Francis wants Boza-Edwards to be mean; I think the gentleman in the Harrow boxer will always have the last word.

As Boza-Edwards had promised, *he did not get involved in a* fist-whirling match with the Spaniard and as a result Hernandez found his southpaw stance so awkward that he quit in frustration. He said so through an interpreter in his dressing-room afterwards.

Boza-Edwards is going to stick to this policy if he meets Navarette, who is roughly the same build as the Spaniard.

I was shocked to hear that the wife of another boxing gentleman, Bobby Chacon, committed suicide on tuesday because he would not quit the ring. I had a long talk with Chacon at the Showboat Hotel in Las Vegas last May when he was preparing to challenge Boza-Edwards. The soft-spoken Mexican told me then that he was going to retire if he did not win because his wife, Valerie, whom he had met in school, hated to see him come home from fights with cuts and bruises.

The first appearance of Britain's new heavyweight, Frank Bruno, was disappointing. True, his Mexican opponent, Lupe Guerra, did not want to know and was knocked out in the first round, *but Bruno* was altogether too wooden. Still, he is the best prospect for a long time



Sketch by Boza, brought to his knees in triumph.

RUGBY UNION

How the wheel has turned for France

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

If we consider how the wheel has turned for Ireland since they were beaten by Australia last November — their seventh defeat in a row, and their unhappiest sequence this century — it is also worth reflecting how affairs have gone for France in a quite different direction.

Since the French acquired a grand slam last year, they have defeated Romania but lost two internationals in Australia, two more against New Zealand at *home* last autumn, and three in the present championship. So as Ireland themselves go for the grand slam in Paris tomorrow one wonders — perish the thought — *whether on the law of* averages the unpredictable French are due to end a miserable run.

The performance of the French selectors this championship has, even by their quixotic standards, been something to marvel at. For the game against Wales they axed six of the seven backs who had played in the second international *against New Zealand* and made two more changes up front, one of them involving the return of a fit Jean-Pierre Rives.

Predictably dissatisfied by the performance *of their forwards in* Cardiff, they then managed, for the England game in Paris, to leave out Robert Paparemborde; to pick at loose-head prop Jean-Paul Wolff, who plays lock or occasionally tight head for his club; and to have two No. 8's, Manuel Carpentier and Laurent Rodriguez, at lock. There were six forward changes in all, one of them positional.

After losing to England, the French selectors made three more alterations, two ofthem positional, in their pack for the game against Scotland at Murrayfield. Michel Cremaschi and Daniel Revallier, who were dropped after the Welsh match, came back for Wolff and Carpentier at loose head and lock. Carpentier moved to No 8 for Jean-Luc Joinel, who moved to a flank in place of Eric Buchet. But still no Paparemborde.

However, that respected performer will be back in action against Ireland, in line for his 38th cap against an international board country. Pierre Dospital will play his first championship *match this season at loose head*. Jean-Francois Imbernon is restored at lock, Revallier now moving to No 8. Thus there are four changes in the pack, two involving *switches of position*, and it looks at last as though France have got their front row right. The presence of Imbernon should also fortify the effort of the tight forwards.

Irvine is fit to face Wales

Andy Irvine has been passed fit to lead Scotland against Wales in Cardiff, tomorrow. Irvine, aged 30, confined to his home with influenza this week, took part in a full scale training session at Murrayfield yesterday morning before travelling to Wales with the rest of the Scottish party.

☐ The Coventry full back, Marcus Rose, did not break his leg while playing for his club at Bedford on Wednesday night. Rose, aged 25, was taken to Bedford General Hospital but after a night's rest he learned that the injury to his left knee was not as serious as at first feared.

☐ David Caplan, Northampton's former Yorkshire and England full back, makes his first appearance for East Midlands in next Wednesday's Mobbs Memorial Match against the Barbarians at at Northampton. The Bedford back row men Eales and Bennett, also make their first appearances for the East.

EAST MIDLANDS: D. Caplan; M. Summers, R. Barrow, D. Woodrow, N. Underwood; M. Ebsworth (All Northampton), I Pack; S. Ashton (Bedford), J. Raphael, N. Fox (Northampton), A. Whitehouse (Bedford), V. Cannon (Northampton), R. Wilkinson, N. Bonnett, R. Eales (Bedford).

Motoring by Peter Waymark

Tangled tale of the Sierra

The tricky business of finding names for new cars has been highlighted by the curious legal battle now being conducted between the Ford Motor Company and a small specialist manufacturer of kit-assembled vehicles, Dutton Cars, of Worthing.

The dispute is over Sierra, the *name* chosen by *Ford* for its Cortina replacement which is being launched in September. The trouble is that since 1979 Sierra has been used by Dutton for one of its cars, a utility vehicle which, ironically, involves Ford Escort components.

The story is a tangled one but it goes back to 1978 when Ford applied to the Trademarks Registry to secure the Sierra name and Mr Timothy *Dutton, while testing* in Spain, hit upon the same name for his new kit car. While Ford awaited final approval from the registry, *the Dutton Sierra came on* the market. Dutton at that time had made no move to register the name but in May 1981 it, too applied to the *registry*.

In December last year, the registry finally approved the Ford application and Ford took the view that it had the legal right to stop Dutton using Sierra. The matter came up in the High Court last week, when, in a summary judgment, Mr Justice Dillon decided that Dutton had a common law entitlement to the name and could continue with it, pending a trial.

Dutton is claiming victory and the next move is up to Ford. It has three options: to go ahead with the trial, to reach an agreement with Dutton out of court, or to let the matter rest. Ford's lawyers are said to be in a close huddle.

To the ordinary motorist, the dispute may seem academic since the two vehicles are hardly in competition. Though Dutton is selling 100 *Sierra* kits a month, an impressive figure for a small specialist, that comes nowhere near the 150,000-plus sales which, on the basis of the Cortina'a performance, Ford can reasonably expect from its Sierra.

For Dutton, which has become much better known because of the dispute, the publicity will have been worth having, even if it ultimately loses and has to *find another* name for its vehicle. With a five months' waiting list, practical considerations, like having to reprint its brochures, would fade into *insignificance*.

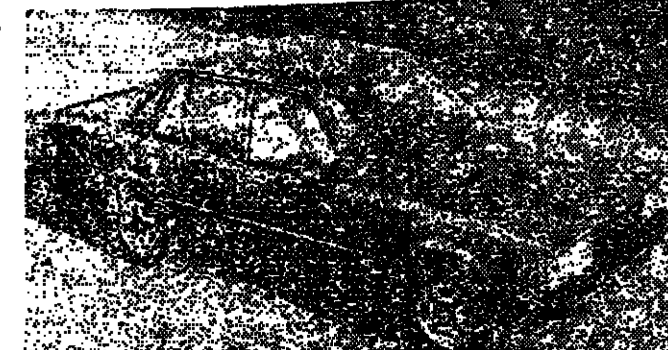
But how difficult car names can be. The reason for the Ford Sierra in the first place was to have a single European name for a model which at the moment is sold as the Cortina in Britain and the Taunus on the Continent. Even that decision was controversial. The success of the Cortina in Britain, where it has topped the best seller list for most of the past decade, made some Ford people reluctant to give the name up.

When a manufacturer chooses a name it must *ensure* that another company has not been to the trademarks registry first. In the case of Sierra, the name had been registered by Renault *and Ford* had to pay the French company to get it; just as Fiesta had to be cleared with General Motors, Ford's arch rival in the *United States, which had* once used it on an Oldsmobile model.

Nor is it only other car firms that have to be taken into account. When Ford launched the Granada in 1972, it was taken to court by the television company of that name, though the view was *taken that the two* activities were unlikely to be confused.

Essential requirements for a successful name, apart *from making sure no one* else has registered it, are that it should be pronouncable in the languages of every country where the car is going to be sold and that it should not lend itself to unfortunate translations.

Perhaps the answer is to *follow Mercedes, BMW*, Volvo and a few others and use numbers instead. But when Porsche tried to launch a new car as the 701, it found that Peugeot had registered all three figure numbers with nought in the middle. So the car had to be the 911 instead.



Stylish Japanese — the Daihatsu Charmant

Daihatsu Charmant

Known initially in Britain for small cars, the Charade and the Domino, Daihatsu has recently expanded its range with the Charmant, a medium saloon which lies up against models like the Ford Cortina and *Morris* Ital. The arrival of the Charmant makes the choice among medium saloons even more difficult, since there are so many of roughly equal merit.

Like the Cortina, Ital, *Fiat* Mirafiori and several others, the Charmant is a three-box design with convential rear-wheel drive layout and live axle rear suspension. At 13ft 7in, it is a little shorter than some of its rivals, but it offers the typical 1300cc and 1600cc engine options.

The Charmant is pleasantly styled, with rear quarter lights adding a distinctive touch as they do on the Talbot Solara (which is not included in the comparison since it belongs to the rather different breed of front-wheel drive models). But like *many* Japanese cars it falls down on packaging, or the amount of interior space in relation ot external dimensions.

Not only is head and legroom in the back seat barely adequate for a tall person, but I found the driving position cramped as *well and could have* done with more rearwards adjustment. Nor is the front door opening as generous as it might be. One very good feature, however, and not often found on a saloon, is that the rear seat backs can be folded down to enable longer loads to be carried. The boot is average for the class of car, with the spare wheel stowed sensibly underneath.

I have been driving the larger, 1588cc, engine which is an overhead camshaft unit developing 74bhp. Some Toyota owners will already *know the engine*, which *is* made by that company. The automatic choke ensures immediate starting and acceleration is lively, the car *reaching 60mph from rest in* just over 13 seconds. With a five-speed gearbox, it is often best to drop a notch when overtaking.

Unless driven unusually hard, the engine *is* smooth and quiet and an engine speed of 3500rpm at 70mph in fifth gives relaxed motorway cruising. Wind and road noise are moderate and seldom intrusive.

On fuel consumption, I managed 30 mpg in town and *35 mpg on* open road. That is better than average and as a small bonus the engine runs on two-star fuel. There is a lockable flap over the filler cap *which can* be opened, like the boot, from inside the car.

The handling is characteristic of so many Japanese cars. *The recirculating* ball steering (1300 version, curiously, has rack and pinion) is vague in the straight ahead position and the car has a generally *soggy* feeling, with pronounced bodyroll. But roadholding is good and fast cornering produces no worse than mild understeer. The best part of driving the car is the delightfully crisp gearbox.

Given the fairly basic suspension, the ride quality is not unacceptable though at low speed the live rear axle does tend to transmit every bump on the road. The front seats are well upholstered, and have an attractive cloth trim, but lack support at the side.

The instruments are clearly displayed and there is a useful bank of warning lights.

It is difficult to point to anything on the Charmant which *lifts* it *out* of *the* general run of conventional medium saloons, but there are no serious drawbacks either. The car is well equipped, competitively priced (£4,999 for the 1600) and the straightforward engineering should help reliability. As on all Daihatsu cars, the Protectol anti-rust treatment is included in the price and carries an eight-year guarantee.

Look, no key

Owners of he top Renault models — 20TX and 30TX — can now lock and unlock their cars without a key. *This* apparent magic is performed with a remote control transmitter, supplied with the car and using the same principle as the device which allows television viewers to change channels without leaving their armchairs.

The size of a matchbox, the transmitter works by three 1.5 volt batteries and infra-red rays. It is operated by gentle pressure of one finger on its centre. The receiver, which forms part of the central locking system, is fitted to the dashboard to the side of the *steering* wheel. *The transmitter is* aimed at the receiver through the driver's window.

Known as Plip, from the man who designed it, Paul *Lipschutz, the device is said* to allow for 59,000 combinations and should therefore give no worries on security. Renault says the owner of a *Plip* transmitter *has* less chance of opening another car with it than winning a prize in the French national lottery.

For the sceptical a conventional door key is still provided, though it should only be needed if the batteries are allowed to run down.

VOLLEYBALL

Pincott the spiker can make point

By Paul Harrison

It is international weekend for England and Scotland. England's *men go north for senior* and junior internationals at Grangemouth tomorrow and Irvine on Sunday. The Scottish women visit the Midlands for matches at Nottingham tomorrow and Leicester, Sunday.

The Englishmen seek to end a run of 11 years without a victory in Scotland. But they did win both senior internationals at home *last* year. *the last time they* met was in the Commonwealth championships last year. Scotland won one, England the other match.

The veterans Ronnie Hamilton (76 caps) and Charlie Ferguson, were in the last Scottish side to lose to England, as was the present coach, John Lyle.

For the English, the internationals are part of the build-up for the men's Spring Cup in Greece from April 4 to 11, where they have drawn the Netherlands and Israel.

They have their most capped player, Nick Keeley (117 caps) back at the age of 32. Steve Pincott, a left-handed spiker, who has been playing for a Belgian club, remains one of England's most potent weapons despite injury problems.

Tomorrow's match is for the international Red Cross Trophy, presented by a former prisoners of war group from Edinburgh, in recognition of the part played in camps by sport like volleyball. Sundays is for the Rockware Glass International Trophy.

Last year, in Scotland, the senior women finished 1-1, and in their most recent meeting, in the North Sea Cup, Scotland won 3-1. The Scots have *strong* centre net players in Rona Brodie, Lynn Tennant and Fiona Sutherland (all from Telford). England have experience in attacker Chris Hazell, their captain, and Ann Jarvis, their most capped player with 89, *both from Hillingdon.*

Dedicated fans and teams spur ice hockey revival

Redskin who pays to play

If the future of a sport was directly related to the dedication of its adherents, British ice hockey could look forward to a succession of television contracts, sponsorships deals, gold medals and MBEs over at least the next few years.

Take, for example, the supporters of Nottingham Panthers. Not only do they fill the Nottingham Ice Stadium every Saturday night, they appear at away games in more profusion than supporters of Notts County. Ten hired a plane to go to Kirkcaldy for a game in January; 500 *have* chartered a train to go to Blackpool for the team's last *National League match of the* season.

Take, for example, David Rapley, a 17-year-old left wing with Streatham Redskins. Three years ago, when the team was granted a weekly practice at 5am, he used to get up at 4.30am and cycle the five miles from his home to the rink. Two years ago, when the rink was under expensive repair, he travelled with the rest of the team to Southampton for practices at 10pm, returning home at about 1.30am.

This year he has three times had to pay his own way to Billingham to train with the Great Britain junior team. The weekend before last he covered about 1,000 miles in pursuit of games and practice. Though his team regularly draws crowds that would make some Football League clubs envious, he has never been paid for playing. He still has to buy all his own equipment. And he has no hope of ever winning the Olympic and World Championships medals that are within reach of the best and most dedicated of other British skaters.

"It's been worth it", he says, "just for the odd game. When the team's playing well, when every*thing comes together.*"

The chances of everything coming together at this weekend's European Junior Championships are remote. Rapley will probably skate on a line with Charlie McCaffrey, a right wing *from Billingham, and Andy Steel*, a centre who plays for Grimsby Buffaloes.

Until this season all three had played in different leagues. They did *not* meet until the team first gathered two months ago. When the tournament begins, at Billingham this afternoon, they will be asked to blend their best efforts in an attempt to beat Hungary, traditionally a fast, fit, formidable team.

Though this is a C Pool tournament, exclusively for teams in the third division of international ice *hockey*, the British will be delighted if they finish above the only other entry, Spain.

"We're the only amateurs in the C *Pool*", John Rost, the British team manager has claimed. "Their players train at least four times a week and therefore have a very big advantage on the average British player which even the Russians' coach *could* not change.

"Given more time and more competition the standard will improve. I still believe that there are at least half a dozen people in this country what could coach the British team out of the C Pool with the opportunities the opposition are being given. I mean I'm quite convinced of that."

The standard of the game in this country has already improved, Freddy Meredith, president elect of the British Ice Hockey Association, believes, "to the point where it is more than attractive to *television*". And competition is more intense.

After the success of the English National League, set up in inelegant haste last summer, club representatives *will* meet at Whitley Bay immediately before Great Britain play Spain on Sunday to discuss the feasibility of a British league involving the present Northern League clubs together with Blackpool, Nottingham and Streatham.

In 1955, when the sport was professional in all but name, a British League saw the demise of seven of its 12 clubs in the space of its first season. The structure of the game then, geographically lop-sided and top-heavy with imported players, was already reeling under the initial impact of television.

There are fears that the extra expense and travelling demanded by a league taking in clubs from London to *Dundee* may *similarly* expose the weaknesses of the present-day organisation. For Streatham, isolated in the south, such a league would require an extraordinary commitment.

Whatever the competitive structure of the sport next season, the immediate future for ice hockey looks dazzling to anyone familiar with its recent subterranean past. The prospects for Rapley and his young teammates are improving. Growing spectator and media interest has forced many rinks to revise comprehensively their assumptions about the profitability of ice hockey. No one at Streatham has to get up at 4.30 any more.

Robert Pryce

David Rapley: 4.30am call

BASKETBALL

Boston man invited to the party

By Nicholas Harling

Three of the four newcomers in the first England squad to be named by Tom Wisman, for the challenge round of the European championships in Portugal in May, have rarely been seen on a British court.

Two of the new additions, Martin Clarke and Tonyu Watson are currently playing in America and a third, John Johnson, of Crystal Palace, only played for his new club in the World Invitation Club Championships, which they staged over New Year. The fourth new selection is Peter Mullings, Brighton's 6ft 9in centre.

One look at Clarke playing for Boston College in January was enough ot convince England's new coach that he would be an asset. A 6ft 6in forward, Clarke was a junior both with Palace and England when he left England in 1978 with the purpose of going to high school to improve his basketball.

Watson, a 6ft 6in forward with *Drake University*, who *left* England in 1976, spent a week last summer training with Solent, Wisman's club. Both Clarke and Watson were born in England adn have English passports, as does Johnson, who is in the invidious position of not being able to play for Palace in domestic competitions because he has not resided in the country *for three of* the last 10 years, in accordance with the EBBA rules. Fortunately for him he was seen in action by Wisman, who was wearing his England cap as well as his Solent one, at the New Year. To Johnson's credit, he has kept fit since then, hoping that this opportunity might arise.

SQUAD: M Burns (Solent), M Clarke (Boston College, US), I Day (Doncaster) P Jeremich (Crystal Palace) J Johnson (Crystal Palace) Dan Lloyd (Crystal Palace) D Lloyd (Sunderland) J Macaulay (Sunderland) P Mullings (Brighton) P Philip (Solent) P Simpson (Crystal Palace) P Richards (Doncaster) K Tatham (Solent) A Watson (Drake University) US

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40-7.55 Open University. Two control problems; 7.05 Impacts of Mining; 7.30 Odilon Redon. 9.00: Schools, Colleges. Biology (natural selection); 9.25 The Boy from Space; 10.15 Religious and Moral Education; 10.00 Hyn o Fyd; 11.22 Monkeys and the Moon; 11.40 Going to Work; 12.05 Plants in Action; 12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 News headlines. And Financial Report; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Tennis player Arthur Ashe is interviewed in the foyer-studio. Plus Dig This, and Living with Leisure; 1.45 Bagpuss; 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Troubled Minds? That's a Lousy Title. A Young People's Unit comments on a film the BBC made about them; 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects; 3.55 Play School Sheelagh Gilbey and Johnny Ball present The Pop-up Book of the Circus, by Loretta Lustig and Ib Penick (can also be seen on BBC2 at 11.00 am).

4.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon; 4.30 Jackanory: Thora Hird reads Joan Hickson's The Seven Sparrows and the Motor Car Picnic.

4.45 Finders Keepers: Battleships game between Polehampton County Junior School, Twyford and Dunmore County Junior Schol, Abingdon; 5.10 The Song and the Story: Isla St Clair in the Scottish fishing village of Findochty; 5.35 Ivor the Engine.

5.40 News: with Jan Leeming; 6.00 South East at Six; 6.22 Nationwide: the legislative role played by the House of Lords, including the important work in committee.

7.00 Film: The Satan Bug (1965) John Sturges's science-fiction thriller about a virus which falls into bad hands, putting the lives of every person in Los Angeles in danger. Exposed to the air, the bug could wipe out the entire human race. With George Maharis, Richard Basehart, Dana Andrews, Anne Francis.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took comments on viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with John Simpson.

9.25 Mc Clain's Law: Crime thriller series, with James Arness as the veteran policeman Jim McClain. What begins as a routine murder investigation develops into something very different.

10.15 The Ian Wooldridge Interview: It is with Nigel Dempster, the Daily Mail columnist; 10.45 News headlines.

11.50 Film: Hannie Caulder (1971). Western in which Raquel Welch settles scores with three outlaws who raped her and killed her husband. Co-starring Robert Culp, Ernest Borgnine, Jack Elam and Diana Dors. Director: Burt Kennedy. Ends at 12.20

Jitterbug dancer: We'll Meet Again (ITV 9.00)

BBC 2

6.40 Open University. 6.40 Membranes; 7.05 Woodlands Decomposers; 7.30 Science: Between Two Stools. Open University programmes end at 7.55 am. Nothing then until 11.00 when there is Play School. Today's story, by Loretta Lustig and Ib Penick, is The Pop-Up Book of the Circus. The presenters are Shelagh Gilbey and Johnny Ball; 11.25 Closedown; 3.55 Living on the Land: Don Howarth's film is about Vernon Egerton, living in the Staffordshire Pennines with his family of five, and spending all his life as preacher and teacher, though not earning enough to pay any income tax (r).

4.20 All I Ask is a Tall Ship: A week on board the sail-training ship Sorlandet, preparing for a Baltic tall-ships race (r).

5.10 Empires of War: The struggle to save the Austrian Empire in the last century (r); 5.35 Weekend Outlook: OU preview.

5.40 Sherlock Holmes and the House of Fear (1945)* A secret society aims to kill off its members. With Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce.

6.45 Dear Hart: Comedy magazine for teenagers. With Toyah Wilcox; 7.10 News.

7.15 A Musical Canal Celebration: Mike Harding and The Spinners on the Bridgewater canal.

7.50 Gardeners' World: A new lawn at Barnsdale.

8.15 Newsweek: Britain's foreign policy discussed with Lord Carrington and Peter Jay.

8.50 Iris Williams and Sunshine: The musical cruise continues. Destination tonight: Lisbon.

9.25 Playhouse: Keeping in Touch. Alan Drury's play is about a man (Doug Fisher) who feels he has been neglecting his widowed mother (Margery Mason) who is becoming increasingly eccentric.

9.55 Scoop: News quiz game with Russell Davies, Esther Rantzen, Jean Rook, Desmond Wilcox and Richard Stilgoe.

10.25 The Blues: Big Joe Williams, Henry Townsend, Victoria Spivey and James DeShay.

10.50 Newsnight: Bulletins, comment.

11.35 Friday Night ... Saturday Morning: The MC is Diana (Brideshead Revisited) Quick. The guests include Victoria Wood and her husband, The Great Soprendo. Plus guests from the world of the clown, including Jacko Fossett, Willie Campbell and Merry Conway, a clown from the United States.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For School. Reading with Lenny; 9.47 Death of George VI; 10.9 Who Stopped the Clock ?; 10.21 Physics; 10.43 Geography; 11.05 Worship; 11.22 Electricity; 11.34 Craft, Design and Technology; 11.55 Comic Stories; 12.00 Song Books. 12.10 Once Upon a Time: Cinderella; 12.30 Second Thoughts: Spare-time courses in Aylesbury, Battersea, Kennington, Paddington and Southwark; 1.00 News from ITN, And FT share index; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish estate serial 2.00 After Noon Plus: The effect of divorce on children. With Leo Abse MP, chairman of the all-party divorce group in Parliament, and Jane Streather, director of National Council for One Parent Families; 2.45 Film: The Arsenal Stadium Mystery * (1939) A footballer is murdered during a charity match. With Leslie Banks, Greta Gynt, Ian MacLean, Esmond Knight.

4.15 Dr Snuggles: the inventor with Peter Ustinov's (r):

4.20 Razzmataz: Pop music show With Bob Beldof and the Boomtown Rats, and the Popscotch quiz game.

4.45 The Haunting of Cassie Palmer: Episode 4. Drama about the daughter of a spiritualist medium with fading powers. With Helen Probyn, Elizabeth Spriggs.

5.15 Square One: Board game, with Joe Brown as the MC.

5.54 News; 6.00 The 6 o'clock Show: Michael Aspel is presenter of this light-hearted news and information show, broadcast live in front of a studio audience

7.00 Family Fortunes: Cash prizes quiz game between the Halliwells of Great Kimble, Bucks. and the McCrackens of Skelmersdale, Lancs.

7.30 Hawaii Five-O Investigation into an institute that specializes in freezing living tissue.

8.30 The Gaffer: Comedy series, with Bill Maynard as the small-time industrialist. Tonight, why he hatches a plot to get the workforce out on strike.

9.00 We'll Meet Again: Drama serial about US airmen stationed in England during the last war. Tonight, the good folk of Market Wetherby have their first taste of the Jitterbug, And Helen (Susannah York) tells Jim Kiley (Michael J.Shannon) that she cannot see him again because her wounded husband is about to be flown home. With Ronald Hines as the husband.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Bizarre: Comedy series from the United States.

11.00 The London Programme: Boxed In. An investigation of the claim by a young north London boxing promoter, Frank Warren, that he is being frozen out by BBC Television. Inevitably, the programme is an assessment of the authority and judgment of the British Board of Boxing Control.

11.35 Police 5: with Shaw Taylor.

11.45 Thriller: One Deadly Owner. A young model (Donna Mills) buys a Rolls-Royce. She does not know it is possessed by the spirit of a murder victim. Co-starring Jeremy Brett, Robert Morris, and Laurence Payne.

12.55 Close. Dr Anthony Storr on the process of creation and inspiration.

CHOICE

● What do they know of Diana Quick who only Brideshead revisited know? Very little. The erstwhile Lady Julia Flyte, who hosts tonight's FRIDAY NIGHT ... SATURDAY MORNING (BBC 2, 11.35 pm) has successfully turned her hand also to writing, journalism and criticism. Not all that long ago, she was Robert Robinson's companion presenter in a BBC TV series for literati, Word for Word. Which reminds me of a deplorable state of affairs: there is now not a single programme on BBC Television (nor on ITV, come to that) devoted exclusively to the world of books. Two people (three with Mr Robinson) are ready-made for the job of presenter of a literary slot on TV. They are Miss Quick and Frank Delaney. The latter has won his spurs on radio in Radio 4's Bookshelf. Recently, he has dipped his toes into the TV pool. I think he is now ready for total immersion.

● KEEPING IN TOUCH (BBC 2, 9.25 pm), Alan Drury's eerie illustration of that powerful dramatic theme, the persistence of memory that rubs out the boundary between present and past, is the first play — and the last — to be directed by Terence Deveney. He was killed in a road accident soon after the play was filmed. The play shows that television has lost a sensitive talent through Deveney's death. Keeping in Touch is also Drury's first television play, and it is a most promising beginning. He shuffles the cards of Time in an ingenious way, and once again, the recently introduced departure of keeping Playhouse down to 35 minutes — TV's equivalent of the short story — is shown to work in the writer's favour.

● Radio choice: KALEIDOSCOPE (Radio 4, 9.30 pm) is given over entirely to an interview with John Mortimer, now the focus of much renewed attention because of Thames Television's recent screening of his play Voyage Round My Father, and his scrupulous fidelity to the Waugh original in his adaptation of Brideshead Revisited.

● ANY QUESTIONS? (Radio 4, 8.30 pm) has a strong panel: Tony Benn, Observer editor Donald Trelford, and Marghanita Laski. Fireworks Night could be a little earlier in Rye, Sussex, this year.



Margery Mason, Doug Fisher, Keeping in Touch (BBC 2, 9.25)

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.33 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: George Chisholm, jazz trombonist.
9.45 Feedback. Your views on BBC radio and tv.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: 'A Man From Glasgow' by Somerset Maugham.
11.00 News; Travel.
11.05 The Fall of the Shah (first of two programmes).
11.50 Bird of the Week: The Chaffinch.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Word! Panel game.†
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour Visits India.
3.00 News; Travel.
3.02 Afternoon Theatre. 'Old Postcards' by Jo Gill.†
4.05 Poetry Please!†
4.15 Agony in the 80s. A chat with agony columnists.
4.45 Story Time: The Canon in Residence by Victor L. Whitechurch (3).
5.00 PM: News magazine.
6.00 The Six o'clock News.
6.30 Going Places. The travel and transport scene.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'Gorky Park' by Martin Cruz Smith.†
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 John Ebdon delves into the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News; Weather Report and Forecast.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND: VHF with the above except as follows: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother. 11.00-12.00 For Schools. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Weber, Albinoni, Bach, Haydn: records.
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Suppa, Michel Legrand arr R. R. Bennett, Saint-Saens, Prokofiev: Records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Weeks Composer Rameau: records, including mono.†
10.00 Piano Recital, Beethoven, Debussy, Brahms.†
10.55 Elizabeth Maconchy. Chamber music on records.†
11.20 Anoka Trio: Recital of songs and chamber music: Arnold Cooke, Saint-Saens, Meyerbeer, Debussy, Bliss.†
12.15 Midday Concert direct from the Henry Wood Hall, Glasgow. Part 1: Elgar, Vaughn Williams.†
1.00 News.
1.05 I Don't see George any more. Short story by Philip Oakes.
1.20 Midday Concert: Part 2: Moeran.†
2.10 Cesar Franck; Violin and Piano recital.†
2.40 Schumann: Song recital.†
3.10 Capricorn: Chamber music recital: Mozart, Bartok.†
4.00 Choral Evensong, Solemn Vespers for St. Joseph's Day from Westminster Cathedral.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again; Preview †
7.00 Journey to a revolution. An account of a three-month walk across revolutionary France and into Switzerland and Italy made in 1790 by William Wordsworth and Robert Jones.
7.30 Chilingirian String Quartet.
8.15 The Lyttelton/ Hart-Davis Letters.
8.35 Recital: Part 2: Brahms.†
9.25 Words Talk by Gerald Long.
9.30 Music in Our Time: Klaas de Vries. Alain Bancquart, Ronald Williams.†
10.30 The Sound of Edwin Morgan: A selection of the poems of Edwin Morgan introduced and performed by the poet.†
11.0 News.
11.5 Handel on record.†
VHF ONLY—Open University: 5.55-6.55; 11.20 pm-1.00 am.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford,† including 1.45 Sports Desk. 2.00 Ed Stewart.† Including 2.45 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton,† including 4.45 Sports Desk. 5.45 Sports Desk.† 6.00 John Dunn at the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition.† 8.00 Sequence Time at the Radio 2 Ballroom.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London.† 10.00 Listen to Les says Les Dawson 10.30 Anything for a Laugh, the world of comic songs. 11.00 Brian Matthew with Round Midnight, including 12.00 Midnight Newsroom; Weather, Motoring information (in Stereo from midnight). 1.00 Trucker's Hour with Sheila Tracey.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music with Tim Gudgin.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Andy Peebles. 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance.† 12.00 midnight Close. VHF radios 1 and 2: 5.00 With Radio 2. 10.00 With Radio 2. 12.00-5.00 With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT. 6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Backtracking. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Development 82. 8.30 Smash of the Day. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Letter from Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Caprocorn Africa. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 My Word. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 Music Now. 9.00 World News. 9.09 News About Britain. 9.15 Radio Newsreel. 9.30 Seven Seas. 9.45 In the Meantime. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Multitrack. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Music for the Harpsichord. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.45 Letter from Ireland. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 9 0-92.5MHz. MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95 8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

BBC Cymru/Wales: 12.57-1.00 pm News. 1.45-2.2 Y Cowboi Bach. 2.35-3.00 I Ygodion. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 5.10-5.35 Gweld Yr Gwyl. 6.00-6.22 Wales Today. 7.00-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-7.50 Pobol Y Cwm. 7.50-8.20 Pride of Place. 8.20-8.50 The Colliers' Crusade. 10.15-11.5 Week In Week Out. 11.5-11.6 News. 11.6-12.35 am Film: Kotch (1971) (Walter Matthau). 12.55 Weather. Scotland: 11.00-11.22 am For Schools. 12.55-1.00 pm News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Goodbye Mr Kent. 10.45-10.50 News. Northern Ireland: 11.00-11.22 am Closedown. 12.57-1.00 pm News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.22 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.20 am News. England: 6.00-6.22 pm News Magazines. 10.15-10.45 East — Weekend. Midlands — Midlands Tonight. North Regional Showcase. North East — Coast to Coast (Northumberland Theatre Company). North West — Sweet and Sour. South — Southern Life Outdoor Party's extreme left wing). South West — The Attic Archives. West — Derek Bourgeois — Composer. 12.20 am Close.

TSW

As London except: 11.55am-12.00 Look and See. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Intruder (Jack Hawkins, Michael Medwin). Ex-army officer finds one of his former soldiers rifling his desk at home. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.32 News. 10.35 Postscript. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.45 Three's Company. 11.15 Film: Virginity* (Vittorio Gassman). Wealthy Sicilian in London agrees to look after the daughter of a relative and to protect her virginity. 12.46am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE: (r) REPEAT.

CENTRAL

As London except: 11.35 am Come Close. 11.50-12.00 Intermission. 12.30 pm Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Inspector (Peter O'Neill, Angela Keil) Actor hires himself to the security force as an impersonator of famous people. 4.10-4.15 Windows. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: Alvarez Kelly (William Holden, Richard Widmark) Owner of a cattle herd finds himself between two sides in the American Civil War. 1.15 am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.30 am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Where The Bullet Is Fly (Tom Adams, Dawn Addams) Spy spoof with world peace threatened by a nuclear-powered engine. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: Land of the Minotaur (Peter Cushing, Donald Pleasence) Horror story of priest who fears for the safety of young tourists who disappear. 12.05 am News. 12.10 Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-4.15 Film: Mark of Cain * (Eric Portman, Sally Gray) Jealousy and intrigue in Edwardian times. 5.15 Watch This Space. 5.30-5.35 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Night of the Big Heat (Christopher Lee, Peter Cushing). Unknown menace hangs over an island hotel when a heatwave occurs in November. 12.45am Company, followed by Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mark of Cain * (Eric Portman, Sally Gray) Jealousy and intrigue in Edwardian times. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45 Mannix. 12.40 am Closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 11.54am-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 2.00 Take the High Road. 2.30-4.15 Film: Viking Queen (Donald Houston). Queen's peaceful policies cause unrest among her family who want war with the invading Romans. 5.00 Kick Off. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Week on Friday. 11.30 Film: Cobra (Jean Yanne, Senta Berger). Two families in Marseilles wage a vicious gang war to gain political control. 1.15am Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 11.50 am-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Mark of Cain* (Eric Portman, Sally Gray). Jealousy and intrigue in Edwardian times. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Report West. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: Colditz Story (John Mills, Eric Portman). Classic PoW escape saga. 12.45 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 11.34 am-11.49 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Beth Am Stori? 4.15-4.45 Dilledd Gwyllt. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30 Outlook. 11.00 British Academy Awards. 1.00 am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 11.33am-12.00 Survival. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Operation Bullshine (Donald Sinden, Barbara Murray). ATS private posted to the same command post as the lieutenant she married secretly. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Once You Kiss a Stranger (Paul Burke). Thriller about a disturbed society girl who murders a golf professional. 1.30am Encounters at Walsingham.

ULSTER

As London except: 11.54am-12.00 Face Your Future. 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-4.15 Film: Topper Takes a Trip (Constance Bennett). Fantasy comedy with a friendly ghost. 5.15 Happy Days. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Counterpoint Special: Decline of Ulster Industry. 11.35 News, Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Square One. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mark of Cain* (Eric Portman, Sally Gray). Jealousy and intrigue in Edwardian times. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.30am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts: 9.25am Good Word. 9.30-35 News. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Passion (Cornel Wilde). Man takes the law into his own hands to seek revenge against a gang of raiders. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 News. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Superstar Profile: Margot Kidder. 12.30am Poet's Corner. 12.40 Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-.30 News.2.45-4.15 Film: Love Match* (Arthur Askey). North Country comedy about soccer. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Your MP. 11.00 Danger UXB. 12.00 News. 12.30am Closedown.

Court of Appeal — Law Report March 19 1982 — Chancery Division

2% general damages interest

Birkett v Hayes

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Watkins.

[Judgment delivered March 18]

Interest awarded on general damages in personal injury actions should in future be at the rate of 2 per cent for the period deemed appropriate. That period would normally run from the date of service of the writ to the date of trial, but it should be a shorter period if there had been unjustifiable delay in prosecuting the action after service of the writ.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Mr Brian Hayes, of Chatham, Kent, from a decision of Mr Justice Michael Davies who, giving judgment for Mrs Sandra Elizabeth Birkett, of Teynham, Kent, who was injured in an accident between the car in which she was travelling and a car driven by Mr Hayes, awarded *inter alia* £30,000 for pain and suffering and loss of amenities, with £16,000 interest, a sum arrived at by applying the conventional rate of interest based on the short-term investment account rate, over the period of 4⅔ years between the service of the writ and the date of trial, the total award to be reduced by 25 per cent by reason of Mrs Birkett's contributory negligence in not wearing a seat belt.

Mr Piers Ashworth, QC and Mr Peter Ripman for Mr Hayes; Mr Mark Potter, QC and Mr Michael Baker for Mrs Birkett.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mrs Birkett received a devastating head injury in the accident, which had left her with a severe behavioural disorder. The judge gave total damages of £299,663, reduced by 25 per cent because Mrs Birkett was not wearing a seat belt. He assessed the figure for pain and suffering and loss of amenities, as at the date of trial on January 19, 1981, as £30,000. The only question on the appeal was as to interest on that item.

In *Jefford v Gee* ([1970] 2 QB 130) the court gave a guideline on the awarding of such interest. It said it should be awarded from the date of service of the writ until the date of trial. Looking back, his Lordship felt that guideline was an error.

It treated pain, suffering and loss of amenities as accruing due at the date of service of the writ, whereas it did not.

It was more like the item for cost of future care or for loss of future earnings, in which interest only ran from the date of trial. But the guideline had stood since 1971, and it was now too late to change it.

There was an attempt to alter it in *Cookson v Knowles* ([1977] QB 913). Since *Jefford* there had been racing inflation, so in *Cookson* his Lordship said, at p 921: "The courts invariably assess the lump sum on the 'scale' for figures current at the date of the trial—which is much higher than the figure current at the date of the injury or at the date of the writ. The plaintiff thus stands to gain by the delay in bringing the case to trial. He ought not to gain still more by having interest from the date of service of the writ. We should alter the guideline, therefore, by suggesting that no interest should be awarded on the lump sum awarded at the trial for pain and suffering and loss of amenities."

That judgment was given in July 1977, and was strongly supported in the report of the Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury (Cmnd 7054-I), chapter 16, paragraphs 747 and 748.

Cookson was taken to the House of Lords ([1979] AC 556), but no view was expressed on the point in question. But in *Pickett v British Rail Engineering Ltd* ([1980] AC 136) the House of Lords did consider the point. They overruled *Cookson* but in doing so made no mention of the Royal Commission report or the reasoning in it.

In deference to the decision in *Pickett*, Mr Ashworth felt bound to concede that some interest had to be given on the damages for pain and suffering and loss of amenities. But he contended that the court was free to determine what should be the rate of interest. It was necessary to consider the relevant considerations.

The important thing to notice was that the judge assessed the figure of £30,000 on the value of money at the date of trial, and on Mrs Birkett's condition at that date. Everyone accepted that that was the right way of doing it. The judge had to award compensation for the past, and also for future pain, suffering and loss of amenities.

If the currency had remained stable from 1976, when the writ was served, to 1981, and Mrs Birkett's condition had remained unchanged, the award in 1976 would have been not £30,000, but £20,000 or thereabouts.

There was no reason why that figure should be treated any differently from a contract debt. If the lady was owed a debt of £20,000 due in May 1976, and judgment was given in January 1981, she would get interest for those 4⅔ years — about £8,000. So she would have got £28,000 at the trial.

But the currency did not remain stable. There was racing inflation; so that Mrs Birkett in 1981 received £30,000. There was no possible justification for giving her interest on that inflated figure for the 4⅔ years. She had not been kept out of that sum over that period; she was only kept out of £20,000. Nor did the defendants get the benefit of the use of £20,000.

Even if Mrs Birkett was to be regarded as having been kept out of £30,000 from the date of service of the writ, she might or might not have invested it on short-term investment account.

If she had invested it, she would have had to pay tax on the interest she received from it. If interest was now awarded on £30,000 from the date of service of the writ for 4⅔ years, she would get the interest without deduction of tax and without having to pay tax on it.

Alternatively, she might not have invested it, but spent it in other ways. In that case she would have got no interest at all.

Accordingly, the interest awarded should be very low indeed. It had to be remembered that Mrs Birkett was getting the £30,000 assessed at the date of trial, and also interest on it over the preceding 4⅔ years. His Lordship, having discussed it with his brethren, would put the interest at 2 per cent, and recommended it as a guideline for future cases.

His Lordship agreed with what Lord Justice Watkins was about to say about the period over which interest should be given.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH, agreeing, said that if damages were assessed on the basis of the value of the pound at the date of the writ, there would be an overwhelming case for the award of interest at rates which carried an inflationary element.

Such rates would seek, albeit imperfectly, to achieve two objects, namely, to preserve the value of the award and to compensate for the late receipt of the money. However it could not be right to apply such interest rates to an award which already took into account the need for preserving the value of money.

His Lordship agreed that 2 per cent was appropriate for interest on awards of general damages and also agreed with what Lord Justice Watkins was about to say.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS, agreeing, said that the court had a discretion as to the period for which interest should be awarded. In the normal case it would be from the date of sevice of the writ to the date of trial, but the court could abridge it if it thought just to do so.

It was wrong that interest should run during a time which could properly be called unjustifiable delay after the date of the writ. During that time, the plaintiff would have been kept out of the sum awarded him by his own fault.

Solicitors: Hextall Erskine & Co; Mowll & Mowll, Canterbury.

Vulgarity no rebuttal of licence to enter

Snook v Mannion

Before Lord Justice Ormrod and Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment delivered March 18]

Justices were entitled to hold that the words "fuck off" were not a sufficiently express rebuttal of the implied licence police officers have, together with other citizens, to enter upon the property of an occupier between the gate and the door, so as to render unlawful any arrest there for a refusal to take a breath test.

The Divisional Court so held dimissing an appeal by way of case stated from Lydney justices, Gloucestershire, who on September 2, 1981 convicted Brian John Snook of driving a motor vehicle having consumed achohol in such quantity that the proportion thereof in his blood exceeded the prescribed limit contrary to section 6 of the Road Traffic Act 1972 and Schedule 5 of the Road Traffic Act 1974.

Mr Andrew Green for the appellant; Mr Christopher Hodson for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that on April 17, 1981 two policemen in a patrol car observed a Ford Cortina motor car being driven in an erratic manner. They followed it and eventually achieved a speed of 55 mph in a built-up area.

The car was never out of the officers' sight until it came to rest in the drive way of Mr Snook's dwelling house. Mr Snook got out of the driver's seat and threw the car keys into a flower bed.

The officers walked on to the drive way, told him they suspected he had alcohol in his body and requested him to supply a sample of breath. He declined and told them he was on his own drive. A second request was made and Mr Snook was warned of the consequences of a refusal.

He persisted in saying that he was on his own drive. He was then arrested and taken to the police station where the usual routine was observed and the resultant blood sample produced an analysis of 201mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood.

Mr Snook appeared to have the idea that once he reached his own drive it was some form of sanctuary. He alleged that he had told the officers to "fuck off" and both officers were prepared to accept that he had done so, but neither gained any impression that their licence to come upon his property was being revoked or that they were being asked to leave.

The justices took the view that to withdraw the general licence to enter upon the drive needed some specific words or some course of conduct which could not be reasonably mistaken. They came to the conclusion that the vulgar expletive used was insufficient to revoke the licence and that in view of his intoxicated condition it was reasonable for the officers not to appreciate that Mr Snook was trying to convey his intention to revoke such licence.

From the decision in *Gilham v Breidenbach* (DC unreported, October 23, 1981) it was clear that it was for justices to decide if "fuck off" was to be taken as terminating a licence to enter or whether it was vulgar abuse. It was a matter for the justices.

It was argued on behalf of Mr Snook, that where anybody, in particular police officers but it must be general, knew from the conduct of the owner of property, or had reasonable cause to infer, that his presence on the drive was against the wishes of the owner, then he had no right on the property.

It was further argued that if that was wrong and there was an implied licence, it came to an end immediately they took steps which they knew was against the wishes of the owner, such as asking for a breath specimen.

In *Lambert v Roberts* ([1981] RTR 113) it was held that in the absence of a locked gate or some other notice such as "Police keep out", police officers, like all other citizens, had an implied licence to enter upon a driveway and to approach the door of a dwellinghouse if they had or reasonably thought they had legitimate business with the occupier.

It was argued that the conduct of Mr Snook in trying to get away from the police in the chase clearly indicated that he did not want police officers on his land.

It was said that there was no implied licence for members of the public to enter the drive way of a house if they were aware that the occupant of the house did not want him on the grounds.

That created a practical problem of where to draw the line and only an express withdrawal of the licence would be workable.

In the present case the police were on the drive way pursuant to the ordinary implied licence and since there was no withdrawal of the licence by the words "fuck off" the appeal must fail.

MR JUSTICE FORBES, agreeing, said that the implied licence arose only in relation to the bit of land between the gate and the front or back door. The police were intent on pursuing police business which was legitimate business with the occupier.

Solicitors: Francis & Co, Lydney, Gloucestershire; Mr Geoffrey Archer, Cheltenham.

Assessing and taxing costs

EMI Records Ltd v Ian Cameron Wallace Ltd

Before Sir Robert Megarry, Vice Chancellor

[Judgment delivered March 15]

In giving judgment following applications for a review of orders for costs on an indemnity basis, Sir Robert Megarry, Vice Chancellor, said that important points of principle had arisen as to the court's power to decide costs under section 50(1) of the Judicature Act 1925 and Order 62, rules 28, 29 and 31 of the Supreme Court Practice, 1982.

In passing, he said the process of reading through the main body of rules under Order 62, even without the appendices, was one that brought to mind Oliver Cromwell's phrase "An ungodly jumble". Matters of principle and substance lay cheek by jowl with details of procedure, and if one day there was to be a rewritten Order, there would be little difficulty in achieving an improvement in the present drafting. He hoped that Order 62 would soon be amended, particularly so as to put beyond doubt the position of *inter partes* orders for costs on an indemnity basis and on a solicitor and own client basis.

Mr Mark Potter, QC, and Mr Platts-Mills for the plaintiffs; Mr Michael Cook, solicitor, for the defendants.

The VICE-CHANCELLOR, giving leave for the judgment, which was delivered in chambers, to be reported, said that section 50(1) of the Judicature Act 1925 provided that "the costs of and incidental to all proceedings in the Supreme Court . . . shall be in the discretion of the court or judge, and the court or judge shall have full power to determine by whom and to what extent the costs are to be paid".

Order 62 dealt with costs, and in the present case rule 28 was at the centre of the dispute although rules 29 and 31 had to be considered before turning to the indemnity basis of costs that was in issue.

The five main bases of taxation were: (1) The party and party basis: "all such costs as were necessary or proper for the attainment of justice . . .".

(2) The common fund basis: "a more generous basis than party and party".

(3) The trustee basis: costs payable out of a fund — where no costs would be disallowed unless they fell within certain exceptions.

(4) The solicitor and own client basis: costs allowed except in so far as of an unreasonable amount or unreasonably incurred.

(5) The indemnity basis: the Rules of the Supreme Court contained no express mention of any such basis and there seemed to be no clear statement of what such a basis meant. Yet for years the courts had been making such orders, particularly against contemnors, and the taxing masters had had to do their best to tax costs under such orders. Often they had been more or less equated with orders for costs as between solicitor and own client.

In the present case, the defendants had been required to pay the plaintiffs their costs, in the one order, "on the footing of an indemnity" and in the other "on an indemnity basis", though nothing turned on the slight differences in wording.

The contention before the court was that the court had no power to order payment of costs on an indemnity basis and further, that in *inter partes* proceedings the court could make no order for costs on a solicitor and own client basis; it was said the court was restricted to the orders to be found in rule 28 of Order 62 so that with the trustee basis being obviously inapplicable, the only possible orders in a case like the present were either the common fund or party and party basis.

However, the court took the view that in contentious proceedings it had power to order the unsuccessful party to pay the successful party's costs on bases other than those contained in Order 62, rule 28, and those included orders for costs on the solicitor and own client basis, or the solicitor and client basis, or on an indemnity basis.

The circumstances of litigation were so various that it was a matter of high importance that the judge should have a wide discretion as to the basis of costs and not be subjected to the Procrustean bed of Order 62, rule 28.

Turning to the meaning of an order for costs on the basis of an indemnity, no such basis appeared to have been laid down in the rules of court or elsewhere. On the footing that there was jurisdiction to make such an order what did it mean?

One possible meaning was that the successful party was to have every penny of his costs reimbursed to him, however absurd, extravagant or unreasonable they were.

An alternative meaning, subject to any provision in the order, could be one based on rule 29(1), that is, "solicitor and own client" costs, thereby giving to the successful party the indemnity that the court was seeking to give him. To say that, on a taxation, "all costs shall be allowed except in so far as they are of an unreasonable amount or have been unreasonably incurred" seemed to be giving the litigant complete indemnity shorn only of anything seen to be unreasonable.

The litigant would not have to show that the costs were necessary or proper or of a reasonable amount and reasonably incurred.

The court would therefore hold that an order for costs on an indemnity basis would take effect as an order for costs on the basis set out in rule 29(1) of Order 62. If it was to mean anything more, in some exceptional case, the order should make that explicit.

As for an order *inter partes* for costs on a solicitor and own client basis, the court would only draw attention to the width of rule 29 and the need for the person liable, or potentially liable, to pay such costs to realize that he might have to pay for any needless extravagances authorized by the other party.

The court's general conclusions were: (1) Section 50(1) of the Judicature Act, 1925 had given the court a wide discretionary power over costs which had not been cut down by Order 62, rule 28 so as to confine the court to making orders only on a party and party basis or the common fund basis, and no other basis.

(2) The court had power to order the payment of costs on an indemnity basis.

(3) The effect of an order on an indemnity basis was, unless otherwise provided, that the rule laid down in Order 62, rule 29(1) applied, but not the presumptions set out in rule 29(2) and (3). In brief, the result was that all the costs incurred would be allowed except those unreasonably incurred or of an unreasonable amount, and in applying those exceptions, the receiving party would be given the benefit of the doubt.

(4) The court had power to order costs to be paid on the solicitor and own client basis as between litigating parties; but the meaning and effect of such an order did not arise in the present case, and the court would decide nothing on it.

(5) If an order for solicitor and own client costs was to be sought, those concerned should consider carefully the uncertain meaning and effect of the order and in particular whether the presumptions set out in Order 62, rule 29(2) and (3) would apply, and if so, what their effect might be.

(6) The court appeared still to have power to make an order for solicitor and client costs, although the effect of such an order was not clear; it might well be the same as that of an order on the common fund basis and, if so, there was much to be said for expressing the order as being made on the common fund basis.

(7) The court had power to make other forms of order, although it should be slow to evolve a new basis of taxation unless there was a real need which could not otherwise be met; but if some new basis had to be laid down, it was desirable to make it explicit what the meaning and effect of that basis was.

Solicitors: A. E. Hamlin & Co; Ward Bowie.

Tony Weaver

The Queen chatting with pensioners yesterday when she opened a centre in Finsbury, London, which will provide them with meals and entertainment.

Benn calls for vote on Lords' abolition

Continued from page 1

it did to Asquith in 1910, that there should be another general election to confirm that there was public approval. Far better, Mr Benn says, to get the approval of the electorate for the "swamping" proposal before the party comes into office.

It should be stated in the manifesto that the party, if voted into power, would ask the Queen to create an unspecified number of peers to carry through the Lords Abolition Bill. That, he tells his critics, would be "straightforward and honest" and would dispose of any claim that the electors did not know what they were doing.

Once "swamping" was accepted, the question was how to do it. In recent times, peerages have usually been created on the recommendation of the Prime Minister of the day. That procedure would not be satisfactory on an issue of such profound constitutional importance, Mr Benn states. It must be seen that it is the will of the people that the Queen should act as requested.

He has found, he says, two precedents for asking the Queen to act at the behest of a parliament. One of them he highlighted when he was preparing his case before the High Court in the action which preceded renunciation of the Stansgate peerage. It was a request from Canada in the 1930s that the monarch should not create any more peerages in Canada. That was done direct, by humble address.

Another precedent, he says, is provided by instances where the Commons, by humble address, asks the Crown to confer a peerage on a retired Speaker as a "signal mark of royal favour". So, Mr Benn emphasizes, there is a mechanism by which the Commons can ask the Crown to act and it is a "proper, constitutional procedure".

Although the paper is said to be written in "high falutin' constitutional language", it comes down to brass tacks when it makes the essential point that the House of Lords is a creation of the Crown prerogative, and it can only be "swamped" by the Crown prerogative,

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Big Jim's amazing last gamble pays off

James Callaghan, a 69-year-old retired Inland Revenue officer of Cardiff South-East, was yesterday questioned by Mrs Margaret Thatcher about a series of murders in the late 1970s when he was allegedly Britain's "Mr Big".

He succeeded the notorious Sir Harold Wilson, who was Britain's "Mr Little".

Looking directly across at Mr Callaghan during noisy exchanges on the law and order issue, Mrs Thatcher told the House: "Murders were greater during the lifetime of the last government." Mr Callaghan pleaded not guilty to all charges. Reporting restrictions were lifted. The entire Labour Party offered to act as character witnesses on his behalf, which was more than could be said when he was Prime Minister.

Giving evidence, Mr Callaghan said that "serious crimes, offences recorded by the police, of violence against the person, burglary, robbery, handling of stolen goods and criminal damage declined each year when I was Prime Minister."

So Big Jim, this man who terrorized a nation, had decided to deny it all. It was his last amazing gamble. He'll never get away with it, we all told one another. "He's innocent, it's a frame-up, OK?" a woman shouted from the public gallery. ("Well, all right then, perhaps it was Mr Dennis Skinner. Or perhaps I imagined it.) The Speaker said that if there was a repetition of such behaviour he would clear the court. Furthermore, this was not a court of morals. (Or at least, if the Speaker said nothing of the sort, he should have said it.)

There was then a sensational development in the case. In a complete reversal, Mr Callaghan said that serious crimes not only "declined each year when I was Prime Minister," but "have gone up each year since". And he waved the Home Office document containing the statistics that would prove his innocence.

So it was Mrs Thatcher who had presided over the most murders.

This ending was contrary to the most fundamental principle of crime fiction. This is the rule that the police officer must never be the character who turns out to have done it. Otherwise it is just cheating. Yet here we had an ending in which the detective-figure, Mrs Thatcher, was the one responsible for the most murders.

Any of us could write crime fiction on that basis. It is simply a matter of making the least plausible or most respectable character into the villain. It was all as wretched as *The Mousetrap* in which, you will recall, the murderer is the one who everyone believes is the policeman. The Speaker, who I assume writes the scripts of all these question times, was simply not trying yesterday, brilliant though he usually is.

Mrs Thatcher, still seated and rummaging among her notes, made as if she was going to deny the terrible evidence that Mr Callaghan held in his hand. But as he sat down, he remarked: "Despite what the Right hon Lady said in her election speeches, neither she nor I has any influence at all on those statistics."

Mrs Thatcher arose amid colossal Labour derision. She hesitated and once more pillaged her notes. Suddenly, she opted for candour. The situation was that desperate. "I am grateful to the Right hon Gentleman for the last comment which is obviously correct. I cannot reinforce what I said about the number of murders, I was thinking about something else. I will therefore give the House the relevant statistics of which I was thinking, which I had in my mind, although it was not all about murders . . ." Last night the entire Home Office was helping the Prime Minister with her inquiries.

Alliance seats share-out 'on target'

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Liberals and Social Democrats announced yesterday an almost equal division between the parties of two-thirds of Britain's parliamentary seats to be fought at the next general election and voiced confidence that agreement in the majority of the remainder would be achieved by the end of the month.

The announcement of significant progress in the talks, hailed as a "remarkable achievement" in a joint statement by Mr David Steel and Mr William Rodgers, was obviously timed to give a boost to the alliance in the run-up to the crucial by-election next week at Glasgow, Hillhead. But the level of agreement reached has far exceeded the expectations of leading figures in both parties.

The parties announced that final deals had been struck in 19 of the 48 negotiating units, and provisional agreements in a further 16 which await the approval of the local parties. Of the 398 seats in these 35 units the Liberals are to fight 202 seats and the SDP 196.

Thus the objective which has guided the parties throughout the discussions—that of achieving rough parity in the total number each fights at the next general election—has been carried out to the letter. Fears being expressed just after Christmas, when Mr Rodgers broke off negotiations, that intransigence on both sides could ruin the alliance's prospects, have largely not been borne out, although both parties readily admit that across the country there are many local disputes still to be sorted out.

Mr Steel and Mr Rodgers said the progress made "reflects greatly to the credit of all our local members who have been involved in negotiations and have been obliged to make concessions and, sometimes, accept difficult decisions".

The areas where full agreements have been made include Scotland, Wales, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and parts of Greater London, and those where provisional deals have been completed include other parts of Greater London, part of Greater Manchester, East and West Sussex, Essex, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Kent, Lincolnshire Norfolk and Suffolk Northamptonshire and Leicestershire, North Yorkshire and Humberside, Somerset, Dorset, South Yorkshire, Surrey, Tyne and Wear and Northumberland, Warwickshire and the West Midlands.

Many local deals have been completed in recent days, for when the state of progress was last announced about three weeks ago fewer than 200 seats had been settled.

The 13 negotiating units where talks are still going on are central London, North-east London, Greater Manchester South, Lancashire and Cumbria, Merseyside, Shropshire, Hereford, Worcester and Staffordshire, West Yorkshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, Cheshire, Cleveland and Durham, Devon and Cornwall, and Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Avon.

Lord Shinwell resigns Whip

Lord Shinwell, who will be 98 in October, has resigned the Labour whip in the House of Lords. In a letter to Leard Peart, leader of the Labour peers, the former Secretary of State for War and Minister of Defence said although he had no intention of leaving the party, he would in future regard himself as an Independent.

Lord Shinwell is understood to be upset about his treatment in the Lords on March 11 after Lord Trenchard, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, announced the decision to go ahead with the Trident 2 missile system.

After more than half an hour of questions Lady Young, Leader of the Lords, suggested a close, but when Lord Shinwell began to ask a question he was interrupted by Lady Llewelyn-Davies, the Labour chief whip, who agreed with Lady Young.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen visits Staff College, Camberley, 11.30.

Princess Margaret, Grand President of St John Ambulance Association and Brigade, opens new Leyton and Leytonstone Headquarters of London District, 4.

Exhibitions in progress

Work by Carel Weight, York City Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, **York**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until April 4)—guided tour by the artist today at 3.30 and 6 (for reservations call 0904 23839).

Paintings and sculpture by Bert Roberts, Manor House, **Ilkley**; Tues to Sun 10 to 5 (until April 4).

Late paintings by Sickert, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of E Anglia, **Norwich**; Tues to Sun 12 to 5 (until April 4).

Early Soviet Photographers, and 20 Years of Work by Mayakovsky, Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, **Oxford**; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until May 2).

Oils and watercolours by Ian Houston, Mandell's Gallery, Elm Hill, **Norwich**; Mon to Sat 9 to 5.30 (until March 27).

History of Wine Collection by Harveys of Bristol, Castle Museum, **Nottingham**; Mon to Sun 10 to 4.45 (until May 3).

Cotswold Lions and Topiary Teapots—paintings by Mary Sumner, Banbury Museum, 8 Horsefair, **Banbury**; Mon to Sat 10 to 4, closed Tues (until April 3).

Spirit of the Sea, paintings from late 17th century to the 20th century and models of ships, Oldham Art Gallery, Union Street, **Oldham**; Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri 10 to 7, Tues 10 to 1, Sat 10 to 4 (until April 17).

Last chance to see

Recent work by Laura Holliday, Martyn Jones, Julie Mortimore and Philip Rawsthorne, Central Hall, University College, **Cardiff**; 9 am to 10 pm (ends today).

The Village Green—research by Paul Oliver on development and environment of the English village green, City of Birmingham Polytechnic; 10 to 4 (ends today).

Talks, lectures

200 Years of London's Transport, by Oliver Green, Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, **Newport**, 7.30.

Ships as a Hobby—illustrated talk, Central Library, Prince's Way, **Bradford**, 7.

Music

Music from Ireland by Donal McGrath, Brent Town Hall, Forty Lane, **Wembley**, 7.30.

Concert, Southampton University Choral Society and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Guildhall, **Southampton**, 7.30.

Concert, Variation Vocal Ensemble, South Petherton Parish Church, Somerset, 8.

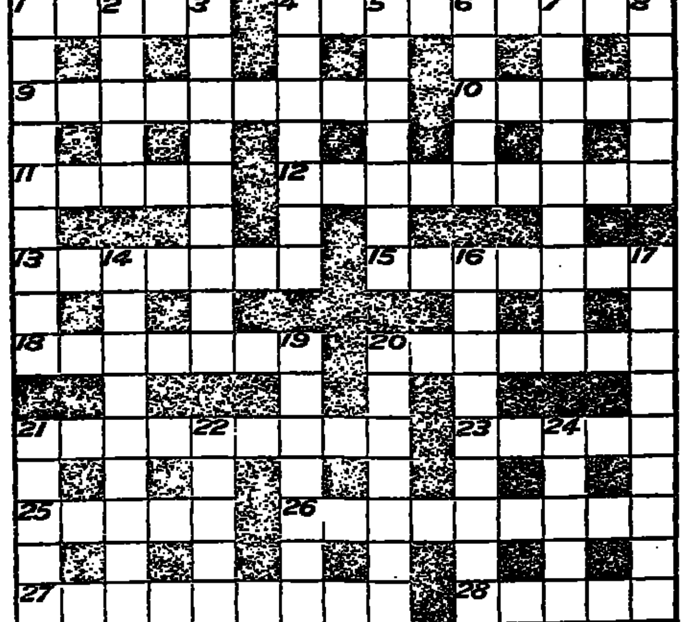
Concert by Nuove Musiche, Holburne Museum, Great Pulteney Street, **Bath**, 7.45.

General

Lincolnshire Home and Leisure Show, Lincolnshire Showground, **Lincoln**, today 2 to 9, tomorrow 10 to 9, Sun 10 to 6.

Scottish Antiques Fair, Roxburghe Hotel, Charlotte Square, **Edinburgh**, 11 to 9 today and tomorrow.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,784



ACROSS

1 Look into TUC backing strike (5).
4 Annabel Lee entombed "In the — there by the sea"(9).
9 Joker drawing support (3-6).
10 Harassed numbers round the river (5).
11 Many on leave in Africa (5).
12 Trader appears to call £500 stupid for return (9).
13 Drains showing evidence of past revelry (7).
15 Pompous being of high standing (7).
18 Islander reporting chess capture (7).
20 Is involved with various rates for literary works (7).
21 Yard supporter gets spliced — rum business! (9).
23 Rascal among hydro guests? (5).
25 Great fear of being late? That's about right (5).
26 Momentous meaning attached to a Bible section (9).
27 Rider for Lars Porsena forthcoming? (9).
28 He sings a note, say (5).

DOWN

1 Minor complaint over best part of feature film (4,5)
2 A heart perhaps is playable (5).
3 German expression shown one — it must get translated (9).
4 Sausage Pole found in Greek island (7).
5 Cuts made about publicity for shows (7).
6 Flat — with lift also (5).
7 Little test in three sorts of verse (9).
8 Direction for scoring bumps in French river? (3-2).
14 Poor writer on river steamer (9).
16 Explain meaning of terrible tripe about rent reform (9).
17 Rebellious serviceman? (9).
19 Approaching centre of Tenby in gear, possibly (7).
20 BR connection booked by late traveller? (7).
21 Married lady so addressed two mothers? (5).
22 Emblem gives us endless worry (5).
24 Last trace of Cheshire Cat, swallowing a cereal (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,783

DEPORTMENT THAT
SCOREBOARD PALM
ORE SHADOWED
MERRIMENT CIER
RIATA PERTINENT
POETLAUREATE
BUTH ADMIRATION
YOLK CRESCENTED

Auction viewings today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Oriental ceramics and works of art, 9 to 11; silver and plate, 9 to 4. **Christie's, King Street**: Chess sets, objects of virtu, Russian works of art and miniatures; Old Master drawings; architectural and decorative drawings, all 9.15 to 4.30. **Christie's, South Kensington**: Old and modern silver; Oriental ceramics; English and Continental watercolours and drawings, all 9.15 to 4.30; Hart/Hall collection of mounted birds, 2 to 4.30. **Phillips, Blenheim Street**: Silver, 9 to 10.30; watercolours and drawings; furniture, carpets, works of art, 9 to 4.30. **Phillips, Bold Place, Chester**: Antique furniture, coins and medals, 9 to 11.30. **Sotheby's, Bond Street**: Continental paintings; Continental watercolours; icons; fast sale—paintings; Old Master drawings, all 9 to 4.30. **Sotheby's, Belgravia**: Textiles and costumes, 9 to 4.30.

Top 10 films

The top ten films in London:
1 Reds
2 Mad Max 2
3 On Golden Pond
4 Absence of Malice
5 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
6 Whose Life Is It Anyway?
7 Arthur
8 Death Wish II
9 The French Lieutenant's Woman
10 Dragonslayer

The top five in the provinces:
1 Private Lessons
2 Death Wish II
3 Mad Max 2
4 Monty Python's Life of Brian/Airplane!
5 Kentucky Fried Movie

Compiled by Screen International

Food prices

Fruit will become scarcer and more expensive in coming weeks, the British Farm Produce Council warns. The last of the English Coxes now cost up to 50p a lb, and imports at up to 45p make little appeal. Citrus fruits and bananas are probably a more attractive proposition.

However, a plentiful crop of early home grown salad vegetables is expected. English lettuce is already a good buy, but for the moment imported tomatoes at between 30p and 40p a lb are much cheaper than English or Channel Islands hothouse produce.

Meat prices are mostly unchanged, but New Zealand lamb is on special offer in many shops, with leg as cheap as £1.30 a lb and shoulder under 80p.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Member's motion on environment issues associated with the coal industry.

Anniversaries today

Births: David Livingstone, Blantyre Works, Lanarkshire, 1813; Richard Burton, explorer and orientalist, Torquay, 1821; Sergei Diaghilev, Novgorod province, 1872; Max Reger, Brand, Bavaria, 1873. In Dorchester, James and George Loveless, Thomas and John Stanfield, James Hammet and James Brine were sentenced to seven years' transportation for "administering unlawful oaths", 1834.

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The papers

The criminal injuries board compensation recommendations of £2,250 for a rape victim and £6,500 for a woman left with a facial scar reflect a man's sexist view of the world, says the **Daily Mirror**: "No doubt a woman scarred is thought to be three times as unattractive as a woman raped", it says.

Commenting yesterday on the British law and order debate, **Le Monde** said: "The British police force, which used to be cited as exemplary in all democratic countries, is now criticized for contradictory reasons: too rough methods by some, weakness by others."

Roads

London and South-east: Woolwich Ferry: only one boat service after midday. Earls Court area congested due to Ideal Home Exhibition. A1184: Temporary signals eastbound on London Road, Bishop's Stortford, at junction with Thorley Hill.

Midlands: A5: Temporary signals N of Nuneaton. A5: Only half road open at Kilsby and Cowellbend, Northamptonshire. A442: Traffic signals at Alverley, Shropshire.

The North: A66: Traffic lights between North Bitts and Great Bridge, Durham. A5117: Temporary lights between Hapsford and Dunkirk, N of Chester. A19: Lane restrictions on Sunderland by-pass.

Wales and West: A5: Temporary signals at Caergeiliog, between Holyhead and Bangor. A30: Roadworks in East Street, Okehampton, Devon. M4: Lane closures between junctions 16 (Swindon) and 17 (Chippenham).

Scotland: M8: Westbound lane closure near St James interchange, Glasgow. A94: Single line traffic with lights N of Coupar Angus. A74: Lane closures at Johnstonebridge, Dumfriesshire.

Information supplied by the AA.

Sea

Sealink, Holyhead/Dun Laoghaire services suspended.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.77	1.69
Austria Sch	31.65	29.65
Belgium Fr	91.50	87.00
Canada $	2.27	2.18
Denmark Kr	15.12	14.32
Finland Mkk	8.61	8.16
France Fr	11.55	10.95
Germany DM	4.47	4.22
Greece Dr	115.00	108.00
Hongkong $	10.85	10.25
Ireland Pt	1.25	1.20
Italy Lir	2380.00	2280.00
Japan Yn	462.00	436.00
Netherlands Gld	4.91	4.65
Norway Kr	11.35	10.75
Portugal Esc	131.00	124.00
South Africa Rd	2.18	1.98
Spain Pta	192.50	183.50
Sweden Kr	11.02	10.44
Switzerland Fr	3.57	3.35
USA $	1.86	1.79
Yugoslavia Dnr	97.00	91.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International.

London: The FT Index rose 5.4 to 556.8.

Weather

A frontal depression off SW England will move SE leaving most parts in a cold NE airstream.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, E Anglia: Bright intervals at first, becoming cloudy with occasional rain later; wind S, backing NE, moderate or light; max temp 7 or 8C (45 or 46F).

Central S, SW England, Midlands, Wales, Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, occasional rain with sleet or snow on high ground, becoming clearer from NW later; wind S, moderate or fresh, backing NE, light; max temp 7 or 8C (45 or 46F).

E, NE England: Some bright or sunny intervals, mostly dry at first, occasional showers later; wind variable light, becoming NE; max temp 5 or 6C (41 to 43F).

NW, Central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Some bright or sunny intervals, mostly dry; wind variable light, becoming NE; max temp 6 or 7C (43 to 45F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NE, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny periods, scattered showers, wintry on hills; wind mainly variable, light; max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

N Ireland: Sunny intervals developing with scattered showers; wind SE, backing NE light; max temp 6 or 7C (43 to 45F).

Outlook for the weekend: Sunny intervals in most parts, some wintry showers in E.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind S, backing SE, moderate, increasing fresh or strong; sea slight, becoming moderate or rough. English Channel (E): Wind S, veering W, moderate, increasing strong, perhaps gale later; sea slight, becoming rough. St George's Channel: Wind SW, veering N, moderate or fresh, increasing strong; sea slight or moderate, becoming rough. Irish Sea: Wind E, backing NE, moderate, increasing fresh or strong; sea slight, increasing moderate or rough.

Sun rises: 6.07 am
Sun sets: 6.11 pm
Moon rises: 3.18 am
Moon sets: 11.27 am
New moon: March 25.

Lighting up time

London 6.41 pm to 5.34 am
Bristol 6.51 pm to 5.44 am
Edinburgh 6.54 pm to 5.46 am
Manchester 6.50 pm to 5.43 am
Penzance 7.03 pm to 5.56 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

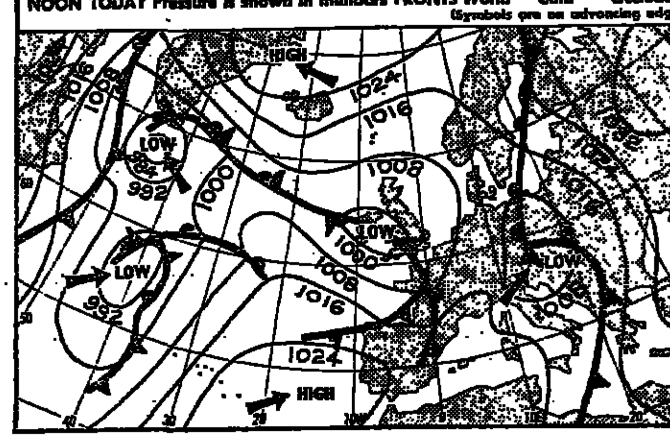
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	8	46	Guernsey	f	8	46
Birmingham	r	7	45	Inverness	r	5	41
Blackpool	c	7	45	Jersey	s	9	48
Bristol	f	8	46	London	r	10	50
Cardiff	f	8	46	Manchester	r	6	43
Edinburgh	f	8	46	Newcastle	c	8	46
Glasgow	f	9	48	Ronaldsway	c	7	45

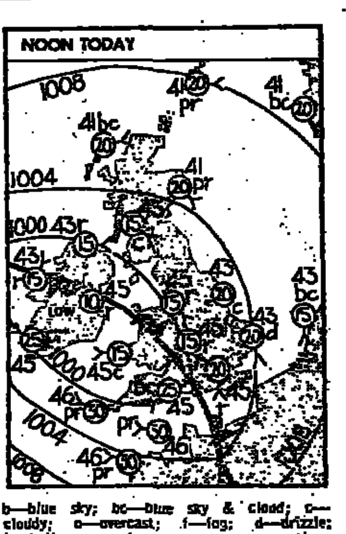
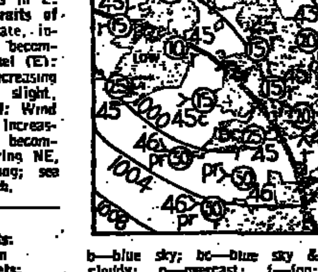
Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 151R: 20.0-20.5; W; 55NW; ENE* and 21.39-21.40; WNW; 25WNW; WNW*. Cosmos 185R: (March 20) 2.20-2.23; ENE*; 35ENE; NE and 3.57-4.3; WNW*; 40NW; NE. Cosmos 1286: 19.3-19.8; S; 30SE; ENE and 20.38-20.43; WSW; 40NNW; NNE*. Intercosmos 14R: (March 20) 3.31-3.32; N*; 25N, NNE. Seasat: 19.53-20.1; NNE; 35NW; WSW and (March 20) 0.44-0.49; ENE, 15NNE; N and 2.20-2.28; ESE; 40NE; NNW and 3.58-4.7; S; 50SW; NW. Salyut 6: 20.28-20.29; W; 25WSW; WSW*.

Predictions suplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.



b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.22	5.5	8.42	5.5
Aberdeen	8.11	3.1	9.15	3.1
Avonmouth	12.48	9.1	1.28	9.0
Belfast	6.05	2.6	6.53	2.7
Cardiff	12.32	8.6	1.13	8.5
Devonport			12.24	4.0
Falmouth	11.54	3.8		
Glasgow	6.56	3.8	7.33	3.8
Harwich	6.03	3.1	6.33	3.2
Holyhead	5.09	4.2	6.12	4.1
Hull	12.35	5.4	1.07	5.5
Ilfracombe			12.43	6.2
Leith	9.25	4.1	10.18	4.1
Liverpool	5.47	6.8	6.42	6.7
Lowestoft	4.14	1.9	4.41	1.9
Newquay			12.06	4.9
Oban	1.09	2.8	1.48	2.7
Penzance	11.42	4.0		
Portland	—		12.03	1.1
Swansea	12.51	6.9	1.06	6.8
Tees	10.51	4.0	11.42	4.0

Highest and Lowest

Highest day temp: Bournemouth, Leeming, London, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Kinloss, St Abb's Head, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Carrigans, 0.31in; highest sunshine: Tiree, 8.7hr.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	5.5	—	9	48	Sun ints
Poole	5.5	—	11	52	Sun ints
Swanage	5.7	—	11	52	Sun pds
Weymouth	5.9	—	11	52	Sun pds
Exmouth	3.6	—	9	48	Sun ints
Teignmouth	5.1	.01	11	52	Sun ints
Torquay	2.7	—	10	50	Cloudy
Falmouth	4.0	.02	9	48	Sun ints
Penzance	4.9	—	10	50	Sun ints
Ilfracombe	3.6	—	8	46	Sun ints
Tenby	5.4	—	9	48	Sun ints
Anglesey	4.6	—	9	48	Sun ints
Colwyn Bay	3.8	.09	8	46	Sun ints
Blackpool	6.2	.02	8	46	Sun pds
Morecambe	7.5	—	9	48	Sun pds
Aldergrove	5.5	.03	9	48	Showers
Prestwick	7.2	—	9	48	Sun pds
Abbotsinch	7.8	—	10	50	Sun pds
Tiree	8.7	—	8	46	Sunny
Stornoway	6.7	—	7	45	Sun pds
Lerwick	5.0	.01	7	45	Shwr pm
Kinloss	0.7	.19	6	43	Shower
Dyce	5.8	.09	9	48	Shower
Leuchars	1.5	.01	9	48	Hail pm

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; hl, hail; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	12	54	Casablanca	c	17	63	Locarno	c	6	43	Prague	c	6	43
Akrotiri	s	16	61	Cologne	c	7	45	Los Angeles*	r	13	55	Reykjavik	s	-1	30
Alexandria	f	19	66	Copenhagen	c	3	37	Luxembourg	f	4	39	Rhodes	s	14	57
Algiers	c	16	61	Corfu	f	14	57	Madrid	s	12	54	Riyadh	f	33	91
Amsterdam	r	6	43	Dublin	c	8	46	Majorca	f	14	57	Rome	c	12	54
Athens	s	15	59	Dubrovnik	f	13	55	Malaga	s	17	63	Salzburg	sn	1	34
Bahrain	f	26	79	Faro	c	19	66	Malta	f	17	63	Stockholm	c	2	36
Barbados*	f	28	82	Florence	f	14	57	Miami*	s	29	84	Strasbourg	hl	7	45
Barcelona	s	13	55	Frankfurt	c	6	43	Milan	c	6	43	Tangier	s	17	63
Beirut	c	14	57	Funchal	c	16	61	Moscow	f	4	39	Tel Aviv	c	16	61
Belgrade	s	15	59	Geneva	c	8	46	Munich	r	3	37	Tenerife	c	13	55
Berlin	f	8	46	Gibraltar	s	19	66	Nairobi	f	29	84	Tokyo	s	14	57
Biarritz	c	9	48	Hongkong	s	24	75	Naples	c	12	54	Toronto*	c	2	36
Boulogne	f	6	43	Innsbruck	sn	1	34	New Delhi	s	25	77	Tunis	r	17	63
Boston*	sn	2	36	Istanbul	c	8	46	Nice	s	13	55	Valencia	s	16	61
Brussels	hl	8	46	Jiddah	s	28	82	Oslo	c	1	34	Venice	c	6	43
Budapest	s	11	52	Jo'burg	s	27	81	Paris	c	9	48	Vienna*	s	11	52
Cairo	f	20	68	Las Palmas	c	18	64	Perth	s	29	84	Warsaw	c	8	46
Cape Town	s	23	73	Lisbon	f	16	61	Peking	f	10	50	Zurich	f	5	41

*denotes last night's figures are latest available.